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COMMENT OF THE DAY

DISPUTE

MR Peter Thorneycroft's resignation as Chancellor of the Exchequer over the budget dispute on the eve of the Prime Minister's departure on his tour of the Commonwealth is most unfortunate.

The dispute, which arose over the spending of an additional £50 million beyond last year's estimates on social services, brought into the open the conflict which started between the Chancellor and Mr Duncan Sandys, the Defence Minister, last year.

Mr Sandys was determined to cut back Services spending and embarked on the task of reorganising both Home and overseas defence forces and allied establishments.

The Defence Minister's arguments prevailed and he gained the full support of his Cabinet colleagues in the face of strong opposition from other members of the North Atlantic Alliance.

Mr Thorneycroft was just as determined that his hard money policies would be carried through to the bitter end and at the time there was no reason to suppose that this would not be done.

Determination

THIS determination manifested itself at the recent Cabinet meeting, finally leading to the Chancellor's resignation and that of his two subordinates. But it is hard to understand why Mr Thorneycroft was so adamant over a mere £50 million (less than one per cent of the total budget), particularly as the money was to be spent on social services.

The Conservatives are not very popular at the moment and any additional hardship imposed on the nation would have pushed the cost of living up still higher.

Public opinion polls have shown that support for the Government is flagging and this is certainly not the time to increase public bitterness towards Tory policies.

If Mr Thorneycroft had had his way the result would undoubtedly have led to fresh wage demands from the unions which are already agitating for increases.

It therefore appears that the Prime Minister and the other members of the Cabinet adopted a more realistic attitude towards spending and public opinion.

HEAT FOR POWER

SCIENTISTS in most of the leading countries are addressing themselves by various approaches to the problem of converting heat directly into electricity. A new technique for converting heat directly into electricity without the use of moving parts was announced a few weeks ago by the GEC Laboratory at Selkirk.

The method is not economically feasible as yet, but it is suggested that with further refinements it may achieve an efficiency in which as much as 30 per cent of the heat would be converted directly into electricity.

Open The Way

THIS might open the way to the conversion of the heat in a nuclear reactor directly into electricity. A *NY Times* contributor says that such an achievement could bring about a veritable revolution in the utilisation of atomic energy for peaceful industrial uses on a level competitive with conventional fuels. It may also lead to the harnessing of the energy of sunlight.

ALBANIA DOES IT AGAIN

Forces Down USAF Jet SECOND INCIDENT

Munich, Jan. 7.

Communist Albanian planes forced a US Air Force jet plane down over Albanian territory.

Macmillan Stops Over In Cyprus

Nicosia, Jan. 7.
British Prime Minister, Harold Macmillan, spent an hour and 20 minutes here tonight as the Britannia aircraft in which he has embarked on his Commonwealth tour stopped off to refuel.

Although the Premier did not leave the airport compound where he had drinks with Cyprus officials, Turkish organisations sent him telegrams declaring they would accept no solution to the Cyprus problem other than partition.

AGREEMENT

In a statement to the press on leaving for Bahrain, his next stopover, Macmillan said: "It is very good to stay even for a short time in Cyprus in the course of my journey. There are many problems facing the Cypriot people. I pray that they may be solved by honourable agreement between all concerned."

The Britannia will fly over southern Turkey and Iraq, a detour planned to avoid flying over Syria.—*France-Press.*

US ADMIRAL HAS BUMPY TIME

London, Jan. 7.

A US Navy plane carrying Admiral Walter F. Boone, Commander of US Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean Fleets, today made a successful emergency landing at nearby Blackbushe airfield.

The plane, carrying 11 men, reported it had a locked right wheel with a burst tyre. It warned that it probably would crash upon landing.

The DC-4 Skymaster circled the Air Base until fire engines, ambulances and rescue parties were ready.

Then the plane, piloted by Lieut-Comdr D. Short, came in to land. It made a perfect, if somewhat bumpy, landing.—*United Press.*

Freighter In Distress In Pacific

Honolulu, Jan. 7.

The American freighter "Colombia Trader" was today in difficulty with a 20-foot gash in her port-side, 730 miles to the southwest of Dadak (Aleutian Islands) the Honolulu Coast Guard Service announced.

The Coast Guard Service said the weather-ship "Victor" picked up distress signals from the "Colombia Trader" during the night. Two other ships, the "Elizabeth Bakke" and the "Indian Mail" said they were in contact with the distressed freighter and were making their way to the rescue through heavy seas.—*France-Press.*

Ben-Gurion's New Cabinet Approved

Jerusalem, Jan. 7.

The Knesset today approved Premier David Ben-Gurion's new Cabinet by a vote of 77 to 33.

The Extreme Orthodox Agudat Yisrael and the Poalei Agudat Yisrael — which have previously supported the Government or abstained on Parliamentary voting — joined the Herut General Zionists and the Communists in the opposition vote today.—*United Press.*

Labour To Bring Censure Motion Against Govt

London, Jan. 7.

The British Labour (opposition) Party will bring a motion of censure against the Government, following the resignation of Chancellor of the Exchequer, Peter Thorneycroft, the Labour Shadow Cabinet announced tonight.

Thorneycroft's resignation demonstrated "the plain fact" that "the Government are no longer able to give the country the coherent and purposive leadership which is so urgently needed," the Shadow Cabinet declared in a communique issued after a meeting at the House of Commons tonight.

The censure motion will be brought when Parliament re-assembles on January 21, and will automatically take priority over any other parliamentary business.

Unprecedented

The Shadow Cabinet, or executive body of the party, said the resignation of the Chancellor and two other Treasury ministers was a "grave and unprecedented event."

The communique said: "Following as it does upon the resignation of other important ministers within the past 12 months, it provides further unmistakable evidence of the progressive disintegration of the Government."

The Shadow Cabinet communique continued: "Parliament will certainly expect a full account of the circumstances leading to this latest crisis, and of its bearing upon the Government's economic and social policy."—*France-Press.*

CATHOLIC PRIESTS ARRESTED IN CARACAS

Caracas, Jan. 7.

At least five prominent Roman Catholic priests were believed today to have been arrested as an aftermath of the abortive New Year's Day revolt at the Maracay Air Force base against the government of President Marcos Perez Jimenez.

Those arrested included Father Jose Boonao, Rector of Caracas Catholic University, and the parish priests of the Metropolitan Cathedral and of the three most important churches in Caracas.

Fears were expressed that the arrests may lead to open clashes between aroused Roman Catholic students and parishioners and government forces.

INTERVIEW

Mgr Rafael Arias, Archbishop of Caracas, was understood to be seeking interviews with President Perez Jimenez and other top government officials in an attempt to avoid an open clash.

The current tension between the government and the Church was touched off by the arrest of Mgr J. Hernandez Capellin, Director of the Roman Catholic newspaper, *La Religion*, who refused outright to submit to government orders to publish page-one editorials condemning the Maracay uprising.

The arrest of Mgr Hernandez Capellin was followed by a series of government crackdowns against Catholic priests.—*United Press.*

Indonesia Destroyed Chances Of Compromise Says Dutch Premier

By THOMAS R. CURRAN

London, Jan. 7.

Dutch Prime Minister Dr Willem Drees said today that Indonesia has destroyed all chances of a compromise solution on Dutch New Guinea and the United Nations will now have to act.

Indonesians were seizing Dutch business "often at gun-point" and so far without compensation, Dr Drees said. The Dutch were in "general exodus" that necessarily entails great hardship," he said.

"The Netherlands diplomatic representative in Indonesia has officially been given to understand that all Netherlands subjects will have to leave the country."

"I sincerely hope," he added, "that there will be no cases of forced labour in Indonesia."

This was a reference to reports of an Indonesian plan to conscript foreign nationals if needed.

"It is now the duty of the United Nations to act," Dr Drees said.

Difficult

He said it was difficult to see how a solution of any kind could be reached with Sukarno on Indonesian claims to Dutch New Guinea.

Indonesia, he said, has refused to consider any proposal "short of complete surrender of the territory" and was carrying out a "discriminatory and hostile attitude" to the Dutch.

As regards future economic and cultural ties, Dr Drees said that Holland wants them but that Indonesia had "step by step torn down this framework" for co-operation and thus unilaterally destroyed whatever basis

there remained for good relations.

Dr Drees asserted today that the Papuan or the native population of West New Guinea, "not the Indonesian Government at Djakarta," should determine the political future of the territory.

"And the population will have the opportunity to do so under our policy," he said.—*United Press.*

INVITATION TO THORNEYCROFT

London, Jan. 7.

Peter Thorneycroft, who yesterday resigned by his post as Chancellor of the Exchequer, was today invited to abandon the Conservative Party for the Liberal Party.

Arthur Holt, Liberal member of Parliament for Bolton-West said: "We shall be delighted to welcome the first man in recent years who has had the moral courage to resign from a high office on a matter of principle."—*France-Press.*

(See Back Page)

IKE ASKS FOR ADDITIONAL BILLION FOR DEFENCE

Washington, Jan. 7.
President Eisenhower today asked Congress for an additional US\$1,260,000,000 to develop space missiles and strengthen defence of the Strategic Air Command.

The money would be in addition to appropriations for the current fiscal year ending on June 30.

The President sent his request to speaker Sam Rayburn. The White House said the extra money would send the total defence budget for this fiscal year to US\$38,900,000,000.

ACCELERATE

The President asked for the additional money to accelerate and expand missile development, build "dispersal and alert facilities" for the Strategic Air Command, and bring a number of new scientists into the Government.

Press Secretary James C. Hagerty said that some of the new money will be earmarked for "the development and procurement of long-range ballistic missiles including the construction of ballistic missile sites."

The request also included funds for establishment of a new ballistic missile "detection system" and funds for "SAGE," known in Defence Department parlance as the semi-automatic ground environment system for air detection of enemy weapons.—*United Press.*

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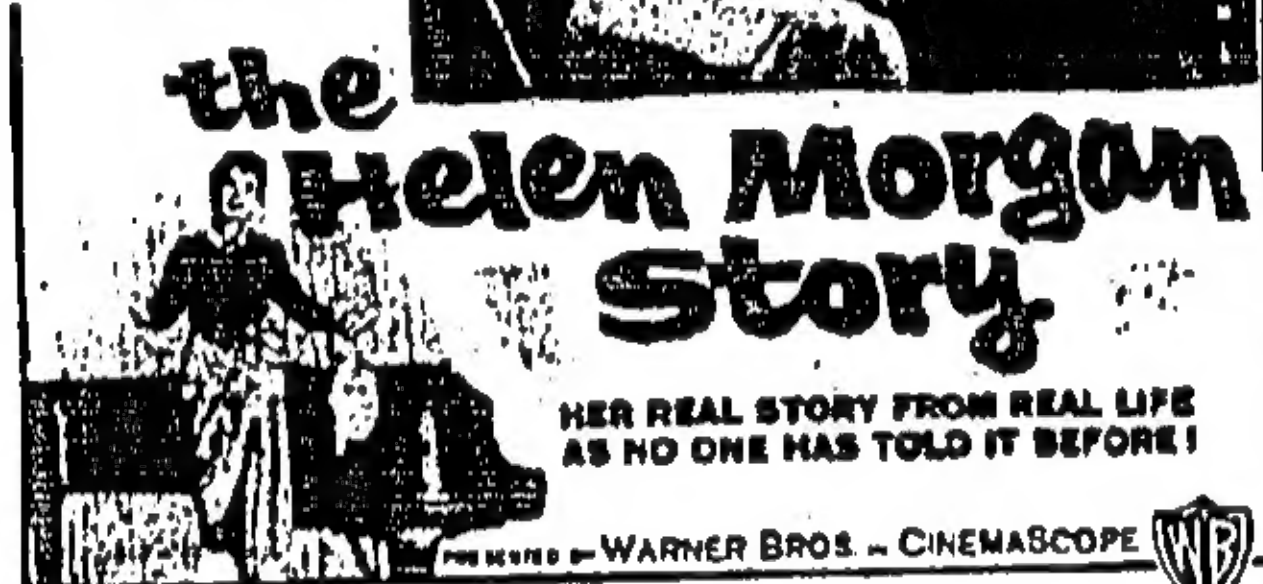
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HELEN MORGAN—
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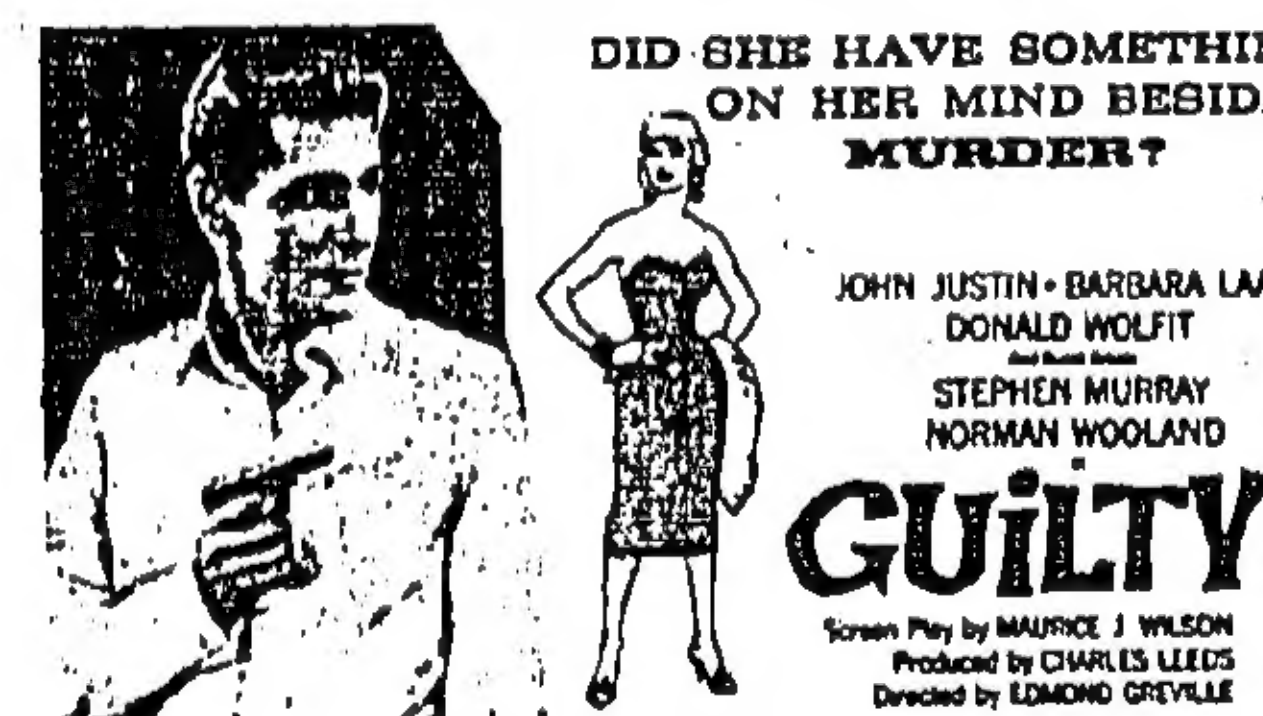
The startling
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the girl
they called
Goddess
of the
Jazz Age.



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Music by ROBERT ROSS • Lyrics by ROBERT ROSS
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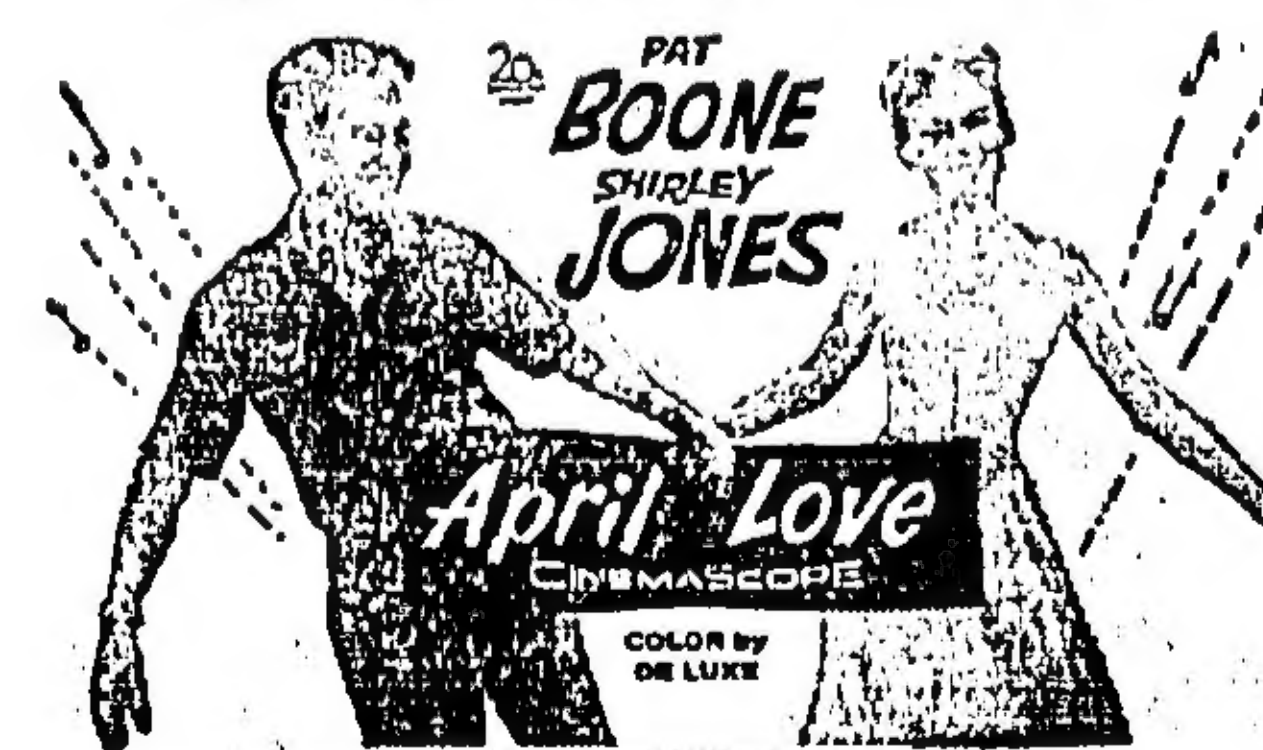
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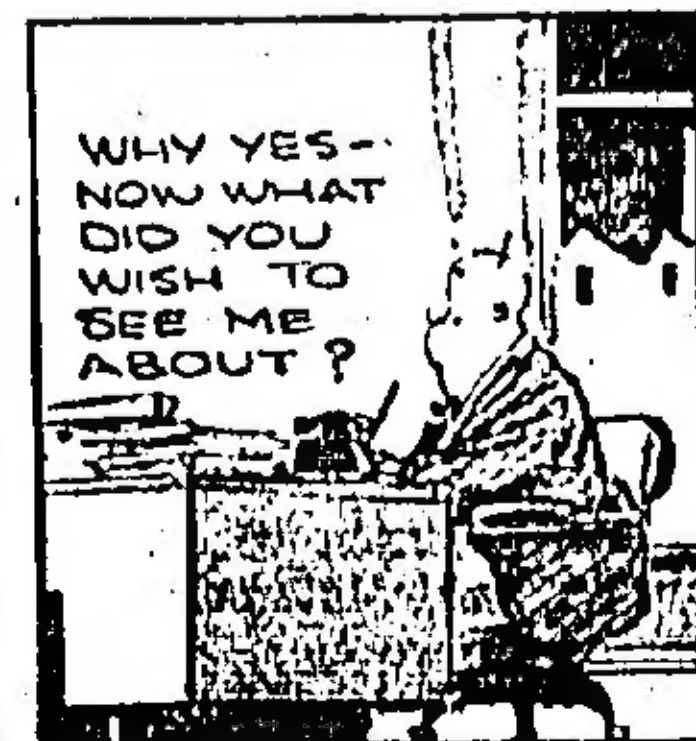
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Not A Sex Change, The Doctor Decides

Milan, Jan. 7. Polyclinic specialists announced tonight that a suspected case of sex change afflicting a prison inmate was in fact not a sex change but a change of physical characteristics caused by a tumour.

The announcement was made after an examination of 24-year-old Silvio Cornelli, a convicted cigarette smuggler, by Prof. A. Columella, a leading surgeon and cancer specialist.

Cornelli, father of a four-year-old daughter, was transferred to the clinic from Milan prison recently, after his physical condition became such that he complained he could no longer stay in the men's section of the prison.

ACCIDENT

Doctors said the young dandy's complications started after a motorcycle accident three years ago in which he suffered a broken leg and concussion.

"The case appeared to be a sex change," Prof. Columella said after tonight's examination. "Cornelli's skin shed hair. His figure became more rounded. His voice became softer and he developed strange urges."

"Cornelli was firmly convinced he was turning into a woman," the professor said. "But tonight's examination showed that the phenomenon was caused by a tumour which virtually destroyed the essential male characteristics."

Prof. Columella said Cornelli's tumour was "benign." He said it will be removed by surgical operation in the next few days, and Cornelli will have an excellent chance of surviving.

—United Press.

Dressed For Occasion

Milwaukee, Jan. 7. Howard Rivers, a 27-year-old serviceman, admitted that he was the man in the diaper mask who robbed the "Bottoms Up Tavern" of US\$800.—United Press.

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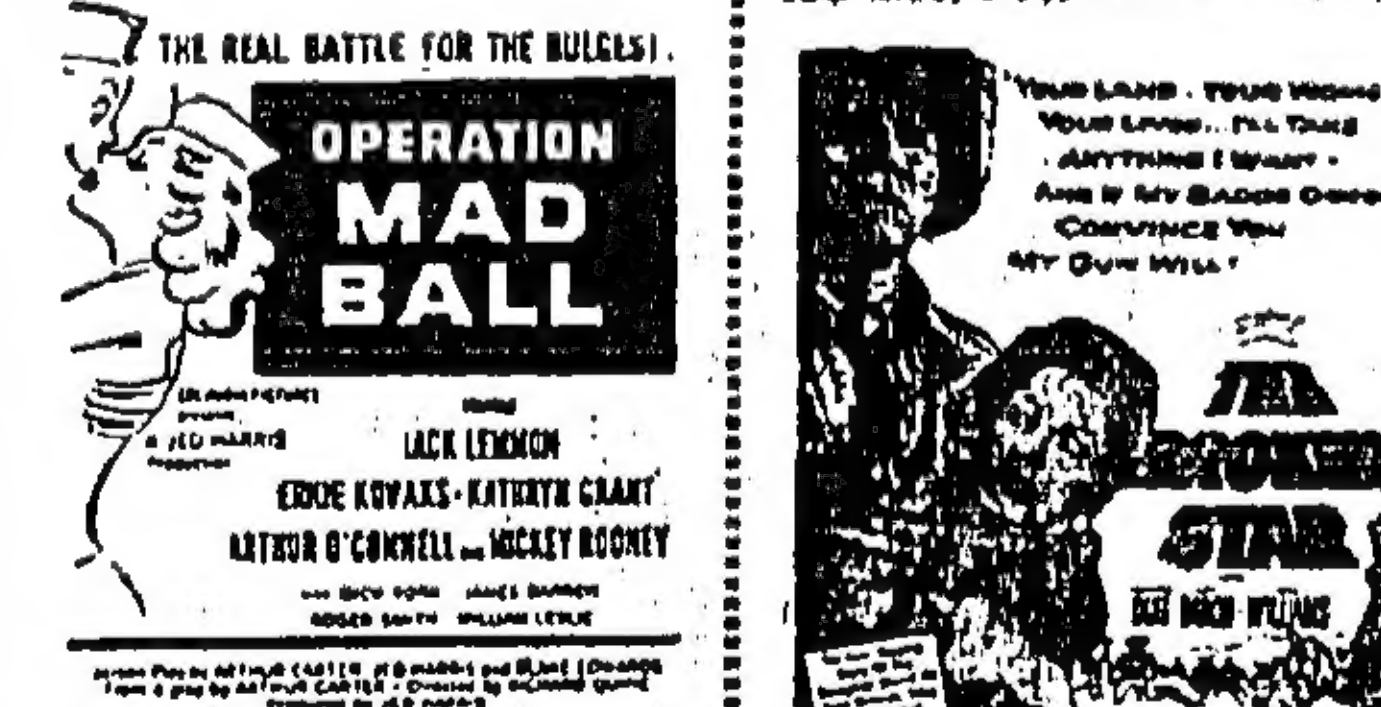
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in Technicolor

NEXT CHANGE
MARTINE CAROL in
"CAROLINE'S FANCY"
in Technicolor

Muggeridge Speaks Up Again

London, Jan. 7. The British system of granting titles and honours at special periods of the year was tonight described over the British Independent Television network (ITV) as "mob-bishness" and as calculated to make people "obsequious to authority."

Malcolm Muggeridge, former editor of the humorous weekly "Punch", who has been banned from the B.B.C. for criticising the Queen, described the honours list as a "foolish survival which encouraged something we dislike intensely—nobility."

He said it was calculated to make people "obsequious to authority" because "they want to get on." He said these distinctions were won for services "some of which are highly dubious."

The list, he explained, went through the Queen: "She is head of state; and honours, if you go on having them, must pass through that channel." They were, he said, "an expensive form of carrot."

—France-Press.

34 Injured In Mau Mau Prison Riot

Nairobi, Jan. 7. Three European prison officers and 31 prisoners were injured in an all-night riot last night by hardcore Mau Mau convicts in Langata prison, seven miles outside Nairobi, it was reported today.

Despite the use of tear gas and shot-guns, 47 youths, some reprieved from death sentences for Mau Mau complicity, broke open a store and stole crow-bars and long handled African knives.

Control over the prison was regained this morning when 14 rioters were admitted to hospital, five of them seriously injured with gunshot wounds.

—France-Press.

RUMOURS OF RUSSIA'S SPACE BID CONTINUE

Washington, Jan. 7. The U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff received a report of Russia's manned missile yesterday several hours before it was disclosed publicly, informed sources said today.

The report was forwarded by the Central Intelligence Agency at the Pentagon, the sources said. However, the sources did not know what value the CIA placed on the report, or if it was merely a relay of rumours circulating in Moscow.

Rumours in Western diplomatic circles in the Soviet capital said the Russians had fired a missile containing a man 183 miles into space. Presumably he was brought back to earth safely.

News of the possible new Communist space advance touched off some heated congressional reaction. Senator Democratic Leader Lyndon B. Johnson, who heads the Senate Preparedness Subcommittee, said: "If true, the achievement emphatically underscores the information already collected by this committee—that we have and can no longer ever, ever afford to underestimate Soviet efforts."

Soviet Lead

He said: "It most drastically again emphasises the Soviet lead and continuing effort to explore and eventually control outer space."

Meanwhile, State Department sources suggested today that rumours of a manned Soviet space rocket flight may have been started by an "Olson Welles" type broadcast on Sunday on Moscow Radio.

Excerpts from the Soviet broadcast, monitored by the Foreign Broadcast Intelligence Service, were released by the State Department today.

It described an imaginary launching in "the not too distant" future of a man-carrying rocket into space. The broadcast included fictitious radio conversations with the first space traveller.

The narrator said that "of course, so far no actual flight of man in a cosmic ship has taken place, but it will take place."

The next day, Monday, rumours of a manned rocket flight 183 miles above the earth circulated in Moscow. Some news dispatches from Moscow reported that, according to "reliable sources," Russia had succeeded in a manned rocket flight.

State Department sources noted the similarity between the rumours circulating in Moscow and the hysteria about an invasion from Mars that swept through some American cities after Olson Welles' famous science-fiction play was broadcast.

An official of the Soviet Committee for Cultural Relations discounted the rocket rumours today. "As far as we know," he said "it is not true."

—United Press.

Calcutta 'Quake

Calcutta, Jan. 7. An earthquake of moderate intensity shook the Sino-Indian border region about 300 miles from Assam State capital of Shillong yesterday, it was reported here today.

The quake was recorded by the Indian Central Seismological Observatory at Shillong at 1125 GMT.—France-Press.

HOW TO BLOCK NEGRO VOTES: PLAN PROPOSED

Sparta, Ga., Jan. 7. The Speaker of the House of Representatives proposed today that the State repeal the controversial poll tax as a means of cutting down "as much as 75 per cent of the negro voters."

The Speaker, Mr. Marvin Monto, a close friend of the Governor, M. Marvin Griffin, said he would discuss his proposal with legislative leaders when the State legislature convenes on Monday. Mr. Monto proposed a poll tax of \$1 per head.

"Georgia used to have a poll tax, and in my county (Hancock) we didn't have hardly any negro voters until after they dropped it," said Mr. Monto. "Now we've got more than we ever had before."

"I suppose a good many of the negro voters in the metropolitan areas such as Atlanta might pay their dollar, but I doubt if they would in the rural areas," he added.

At present only seven of the 48 States have a poll tax as a prerequisite to voting. They are: Alabama, Arkansas, Mississippi, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia.

—United Press.

They Saved Crew Of Sunk Soviet Submarine

London, Jan. 7. Several officers and men of the Soviet Navy have been decorated for heroism in saving the lives of the crew of a submarine which sank during exercises recently, Moscow Radio reported today.

The broadcast, heard here, did not say when or where the submarine sank. It said only that the incident occurred during an exercise.

The submarine lay on the bottom of the sea with two compartments flooded, the broadcast said. Its marker buoy was located and divers were sent down to effect a rescue.

The broadcast said they worked for two days and nights to save the crew, and were beginning to suffer from lack of oxygen, and that the ship was finally raised after 36 hours with all crew members unharmed.

—United Press.

Someone Had To Do It

Dixon, Iowa, Jan. 7. Dixon's third choice for mayor became Mayor today, James Quigley, a 34-year-old write-in candidate, said he didn't particularly want the job "but somebody had to take it."

A. J. Gibson, who won the election, declined the post and so did the runner-up, former Mayor D. S. Randolph.

—United Press.

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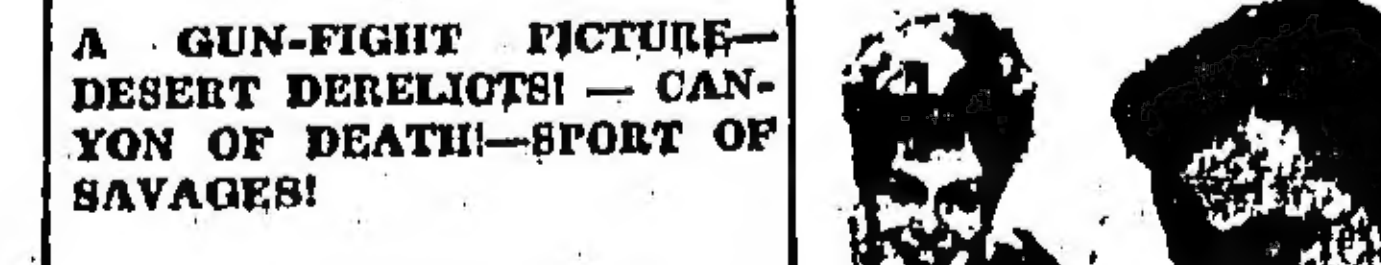
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ORIENTAL MAJESTIC

AIR CONDITIONED

TO-DAY
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A GUN-FIGHT PICTURE—
DESERT DERELICTS!—CAN-
YON OF DEATH!—SPORT OF
SAVAGES!



SHOWING TO-DAY
At 2.30, 5.20, 7.30 & 9.30 p.m.



James Mason • Phyllis Calvert

John Kent • Willis G. Lawrence

Harper's Story

Reports On Prospects Of Alliance Talks Nato To Consider Reply To Reds

West Germany To Advise Change Of Approach?

Paris, Jan. 7.

Replies of the Western powers to Marshal Nikolai Bulganin's "peace" letters are to be considered by the Nato permanent council which meets here tomorrow.

France, the United States and Belgium are among those who have completed drafts for submission to the meeting, while Norway has not yet reacted at this stage. It is not yet known whether the British draft has been completed. West Germany is expected to advocate a change of approach.

A French Foreign Ministry spokesman said he thought nothing about the contents of the proposed replies would be revealed in the immediate future.

On the unexpected suggestion of Mr Harold Macmillan, the British Prime Minister, for a non-aggression pact with the Soviet Union, he told a questioner:

"There is no reason to assume that divergences between the Nato allies have in any way increased since the Nato summit meeting (in Paris last month) when once again our common interests prevailed over our divergent interests."

Proposals

Marshal Bulganin's letters listed Soviet proposals for lessening international tension. These included the suspension of nuclear tests, an East-West non-aggression pact, and—in the letter to President Eisenhower—direct top-level talks with the United States.

Following are reports from world's capitals on Nato prospects:

WASHINGTON—A draft of the United States reply to Marshal Bulganin was being sent to Paris today.

Officials declined to comment on reports that the United States would reject the idea of a "summit" meeting at this time. But it was generally believed that the basis theme would be that the Soviet Union would have to display evidence of "integrity and sincerity in negotiation" at a lower level before the United States government would agree to a meeting of heads of state.

Informed officials said it was most unlikely that the United States reply would make any particular reference to the sug-

gestion of Mr Harold Macmillan for a non-aggression pact.

The United States reply, drafted by Mr John Foster Dulles, the Secretary of State, was studied by President Eisenhower over the weekend and was understood to have been discussed at yesterday's meeting of the National Security Council.

BONN—West Germany is expected to advocate using the replies to Marshal Bulganin's letters as a way to diplomatic exchanges with Moscow.

There are indications here that Bonn believes a change of approach is needed in the West's relations with Moscow and that the secret channels of diplomacy offer more prospect than public exchanges of letters and notes.

The government is expected to favour a friendly reply which does not close any door.

BRUSSELS—A Belgian Foreign Office spokesman declined to give details of his country's draft-reply, to be submitted to Nato tomorrow.

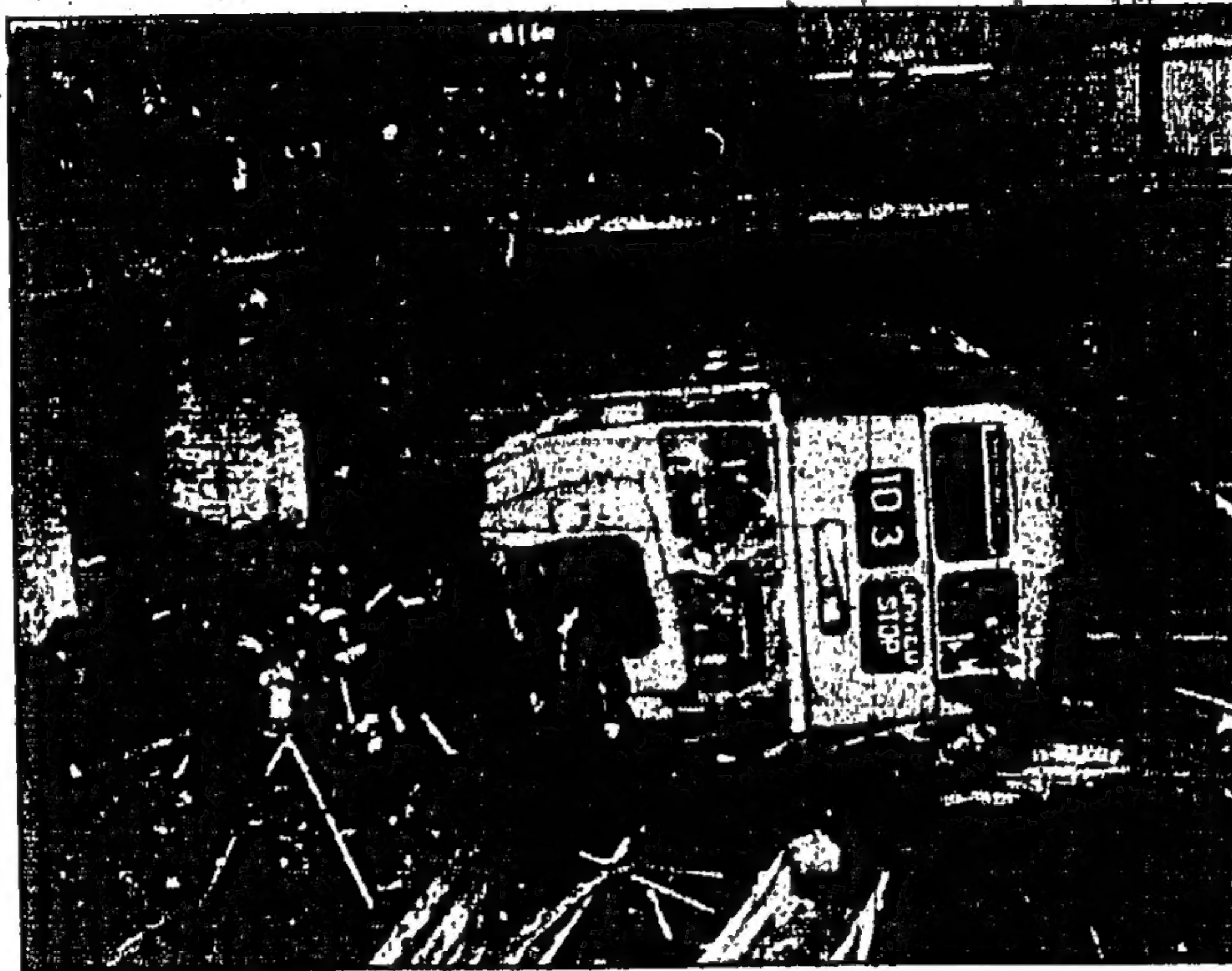
The text of Marshal Bulganin's letter has not been published here.

Draft Stage

OSLO—A spokesman of the Norwegian Foreign Department said Norway's reply to the Bulganin letter would not be ready for tomorrow's Paris meeting. It had not yet reached the draft stage. He understood that further meetings of the permanent council would be held on the question, and Norway's reply was expected to be ready for such a later meeting.

The Norwegian morning newspaper Arbeider-Bladet, which often reflects the views of the government, today commented favourably on Mr Macmillan's speech of Saturday—Reuter.

BUS CRASHES INTO BASEMENT



Crowded with Christmas shoppers, a double-decker bus crashed through a fence and plunges 20 feet into the basement of a burned-out building in Manchester recently. One man was killed and 40 persons were injured, six seriously. When rescuers helped pull the passengers out, they found two babies unscathed and chuckling happily in the confusion.—Keystone.

US Permission To Mothers Given Under Pressure, China Says

Tokyo, Jan. 8. China said today that the U.S. State Department had been forced by the pressure of U.S. public opinion to allow three American mothers to visit their sons who were imprisoned on Communist "spy" charges.

The Chinese, in a report sent abroad by the New China news agency, at the same time renewed their charges that the three imprisoned Americans were "spies" or "special agents."

HUMANITARIAN

The agency said the Chinese government, "prompted by humanitarian considerations," had indicated as early as January 19, 1955, that it would allow the visit.

But it was not until December 6, 1957, that the U.S. State Department, under pressure of U.S. public opinion, issued a statement allowing immediate members of the family of the U.S. convicts to come to China to visit them, the agency added.

The three imprisoned Americans are John T. Downey, 28, Richard G. Fockens, 31, and Hugh F. Redmond, 39. Both Downey and Fockens were "special agents of the U.S. espionage organization—the Central Intelligence Agency," the agency said.

Redmond, the agency added, was "a professional special agent of the United States."—United Press.

September Song

Barnet, Heris, Jan. 7. An 80-year-old retired school headmaster married an 84-year-old retired school mistress here today.

It was the first wedding for both Mr Hubert Thornton and Mrs Amy Stephens. They first met as students in London and have known each other 65 years.—China Mail Special.

Cuban Battle

Havana, Jan. 7. A group of some 30 Cuban rebels today attacked a regular army post at Dos Palmas in the Province of Oriente. It was reported here.

The rebels were driven off by the garrison and left behind two of their blunderbuss and a quantity of arms and ammunition.—France Press.

US Mothers Tour Canton, Sample Chinese Delicacies

Canton, Jan. 7.

Three American mothers who have come to China to visit their sons gaoled on espionage charges, today went sightseeing in this busy southern port and sampled its world-famous food.

Mrs Jessie Fecteau, Mrs Mary Downey and Mrs Ruth Redmond who arrived yesterday from Hongkong, were filling in time while waiting to fly tomorrow to Peking and Shanghai where their sons are serving sentences ranging from 20 years to life.

Mrs Downey told Reuter: "We particularly enjoyed the chicken and rice dishes and a visit to a department store. But we are postponing our purchases until the end of our stay in China."

A girl escort from the Chinese Red Cross, which is organizing the mothers' visit, took them to an ivory factory where they saw figurines cut, carved and polished, to a new gymnasium and to city parks.

Mrs Downey said: "Lots of folk stop to stare when they see us on the street, but they are all friendly and the children are just delightful."

'QUITE A SIGHT'

Mr William Downey, who is accompanying his mother to Peking, where his brother John is in jail, said he was most impressed by the sampan colony on the Pearl River which "is really quite a sight."

Red Cross headquarters in Peking said that arrangements for visiting the prisoners would not be made until the mothers arrived.

Hotel rooms for the Americans were being reserved. Meanwhile, it was reported that the three mothers, said Mr Abraham Wirin, an American lawyer, had been granted a special type of visa.

The New China news agency said that when Mr Wirin arrived at the frontier post of Shumchun on January 6, a Communist official pointed out that his passport bore the words "those portions of China... under Communist control."

The Chinese frontier inspector told him this showed the United States' hostility towards Communist China but because it was not Wirin's fault, he would be given a visa on a separate paper.

A similar statement was read to the family members of the three convicted US secret agents, the report continued. Another report from Canton said Mr Wirin would leave for Peking soon.

(Mr Wirin is representing the Americans John Powell and his wife Sylvia who are facing sedition charges over the publication of an article on arm warfare during the Korean war.)—Reuter.

The 'Sack' Makes No Difference

London, Jan. 7.

Radio Moscow reported today that a "Straight Out" similar to the Paris "Sack look" is sweeping the Russian fashion world. Western fashion experts here believe this will mean very little change in the appearance of Russian women.—United Press.

Space Symbol

Tokyo, Jan. 7. A Tokyo department store offered for sale today a black formal kimono decorated with likenesses of Lenin, the Russian space dog, instead of traditional Japanese family symbols.—United Press.

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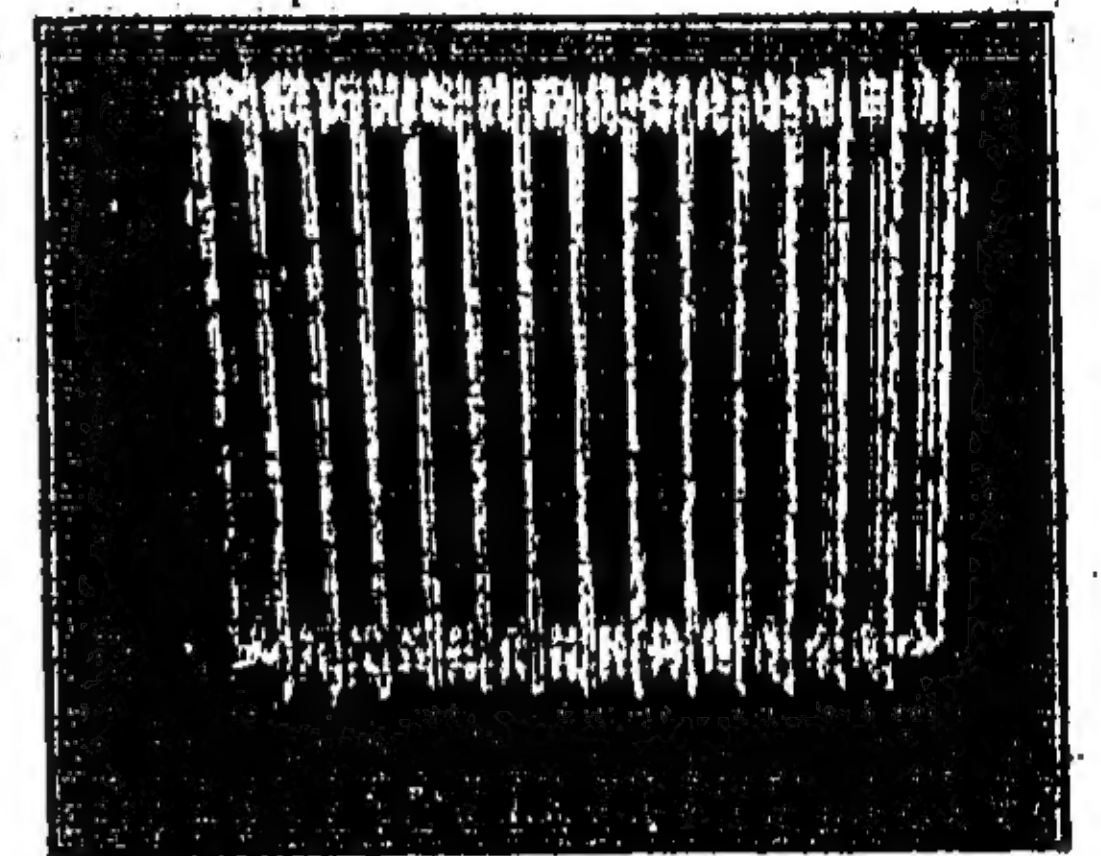
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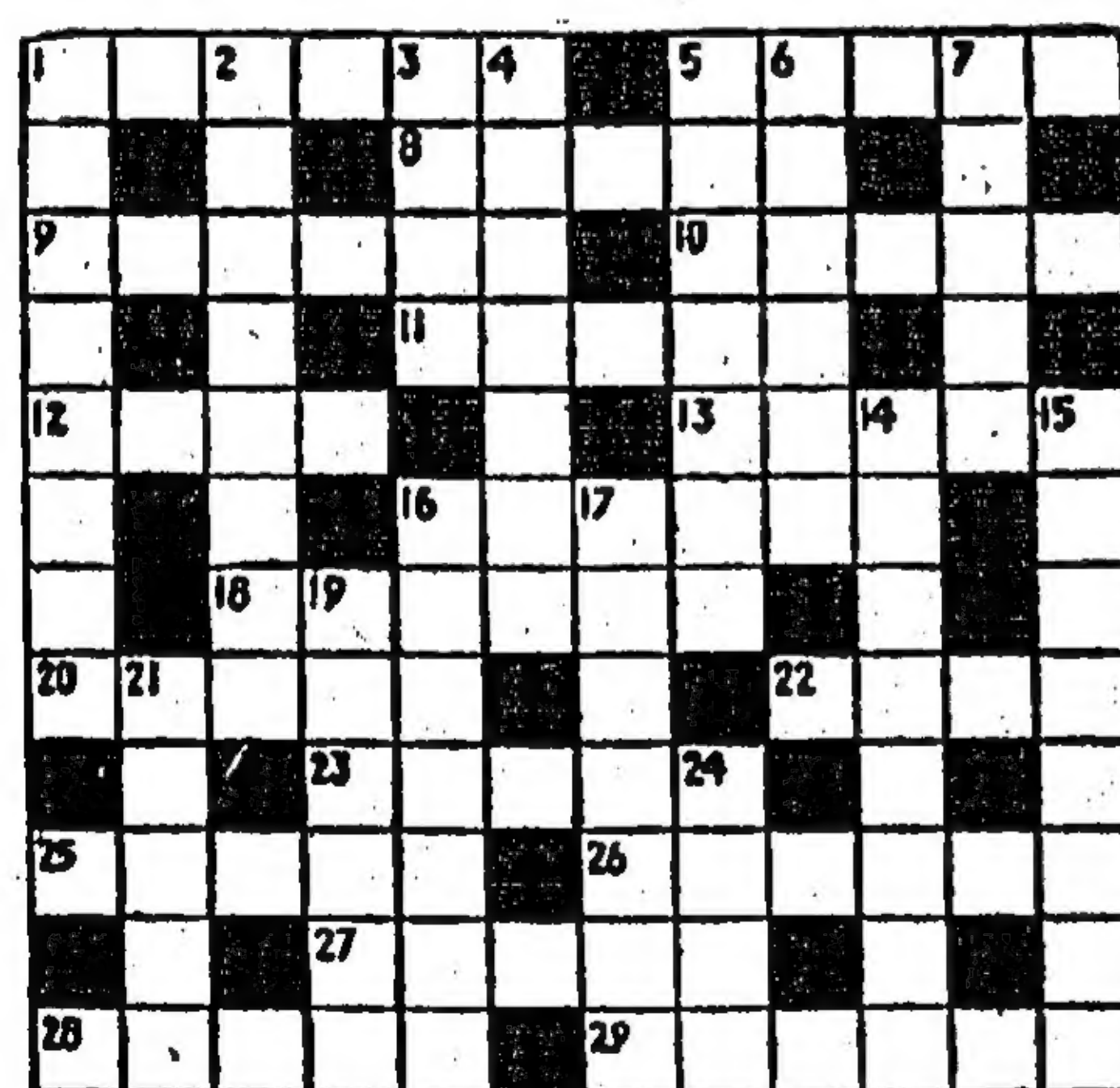


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A British Crossword Puzzle



- ACROSS**
- They have two feet (6).
 - Years for trousers (6).
 - A starter for the Oaks! (6).
 - Patch up (6).
 - Come right in! (6).
 - Spicy check (6).
 - Swiss count (4).
 - Supporter of the arts (5).
 - Head of the church? (6).
 - If in this one is out of the red (6).
 - Sticky colour? (5).
 - Miss or solid water? (4).
 - Allow to enter (5).
 - Show jumper, perhaps (5).
 - Salad ingredient (6).
 - That "red moon" track? (5).
 - R.O.s (6).
 - The rise of a perfume (6).
- DOWN**
- Exploding (8).
 - The ordinary people (8).
 - Staging (4).
 - Used a blunt razor? (7).
 - Commendment (7).
 - Temper (6).
 - Motif (6).
 - Just a song at twilight? (8).
 - Not for short sailors, it seems (8).
 - Officers attached to engines (7).
 - Irregulars (7).
 - The insane have lost it (6).
 - What chickens may come home to (6).
 - Drinks—little ones (4).

TUESDAY'S SOLUTION—Across: 3 Lake, 7 Stick, 8 Avar, 9 Fuge, 10 Invites, 12 Epic, 15 Renow, 16 Bias, 19 Error, 21 Fries, 22 Fied, 23 Eels, 24 Gill, 25 Absence, 26 Opus, 28 Feast, 29 Event, 30 Sole, 31 Down, 1 At one, 2 Prairie, 4 Amuse, 5 Ease, 6 Levi, 9 Pens, 11 Tease, 13 Para, 14 Curt, 16 Wells, 17 Stag, 18 Bill, 20 Reserve, 22 Fibs, 24 Vault, 25 Scuba, 27 Item, 28 Laid.

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What's so wrong about talking to Krushchev?

WHAT'S the prospect for 1958? Maybe some economic decline, maybe not. I'm not an economic tipster so I won't try to guess. But basically it's likely that the Prime Minister will be able to keep saying: "You never had it so good."

We'll go on being warm and comfortable and well fed. We'll have television sets and washing machines and cars. And yet... and yet. At the back of our minds we greet 1958 with the thought: "It's a miracle we are still here."

We are within a few inches of total destruction. I don't mean just the people of England, though war would hit us harder than anyone else. But one blunder by a radar observer — here, in America, or in the Soviet Union — and within six minutes there would follow a man-made catastrophe such as the world has never known.

Are we to live with this nightmare for ever? Are we to go on piling up weapons of destruction, waiting to discover some new scientific horror or for the Russians to surrender at discretion?

No. No. A thousand times No. For our own sake, for the sake of our children, for the

sake of humanity, we must break the deadlock. We pay our statesmen well. We give them honour and respect. They must earn their keep. They must try to find a way out. If they won't, let them make way for others who will.

This is the only problem that matters in the world. Everything else takes second place. End the horror of nuclear warfare. There'll be plenty of other troubles afterwards, but none that threatens the destruction of the human race.

THE WAY OUT

THERE is a way out. And to my mind one way only. It is: LIVE AND LET LIVE. We can't win a war against the Russians. They can't win a war against us. Then let us make peace.

Is there a chance at all? If there were one chance in a thousand, it would be worth trying. I believe the chance is much greater.

The Russians are not hell-bent on war and world con-

quest as Hitler was. Vast expenditure on arms is just as much a curse for them as for us. The Soviet leaders want to be popular with their own people. And for that they must turn their gigantic resources to peaceful production.

STRONG POINT

THE Russians are not going to stop being Communists. That sounds tough, but it is really a strong point for peace. Communists really believe that their system is better than ours, that it can win the race in peaceful competition. That seems crazy to us, but why not accept the challenge?

The West has plenty of reasons for being suspicious of the Russians. Hungary alone takes a lot of living down. But the Russians have good grounds for being suspicious, too. For instance, how many Nazis are now in high places in Western Germany? How many of Hitler's generals are now serving on our side?

CLEAN SLATE

WE'D better make a clean slate of past grievances. Otherwise we may find that the account shows a credit balance on the Russian side. We must accept the world as it is and ask: How can we make peace on the basis of the status quo?

The only method is to talk to the Russians, talk again, and keep on talking. Long-range exchange of letters won't do. Leaving it to the German Ambassador at Moscow won't do, though it is what NATO has just agreed to. I wonder they didn't dig up Ribbentrop and send him to Moscow.

Nor is there any point in leaving it to a conference at Foreign Minister level.

This is the most important question in the world. Why then have I dealt with it except by the most important men?

The talks have to be at the top. They'll take a long time. All right. It is a price worth paying.

For the sake of world peace I'd put up with the absence of Mr. Macmillan for six months, a year, or for just as long as Mr. Krushchev will talk to him. And we could do worse than talk to Krushchev for good measure.

ALTERNATIVE

WHERE do we talk? That's the easy part. We must talk in a neutral country. And there are plenty of countries already more secure than we are. Geneva worked last time and gave us the best results since the war. Stockholm is an alternative if we want a change.

Whom do we talk to? We talk to Krushchev. And we'd better hurry.

Krushchev is the most sensible, most enlightened leader Russia has had since the death of Stalin. No one knows whether his position in Russia is secure. We must make the most of our oppor-

THE TIME FOR ANOTHER SUMMIT MEETING IS NOW

And he sure he wants the same. He'll go back in triumph to Moscow if he goes back with peace in his pocket.

WORTH WHILE

WHAT are we waiting for? Until we have someone like Molotov to negotiate with? Then we'd certainly be going straight for war.

No one supposes that eternal peace and friendship are going to reign because of a few friendly chats. The tension has been screwing up ever since the war. It will be worth while to give even the Unist twist in the other direction. Right about turn is the first thing. Quick march will come after.

For instance, we've got a concrete Russian proposal before us. If we keep rocket bases and nuclear weapons out of Western Germany, Russia will keep them out of Eastern Germany, Poland, and Czechoslovakia. What have we to lose by trying this out?

When I read this offer I thought the West would send a telegram the same day: "We accept at once."

Instead, the offer has been ignored. It is a trap... a trap, and so on. How can we let it go until we try it in practice? Or why not suggest something else in return?

HIGH-MINDED

WESTERN statesmen, I am sure, are worthy, high-minded men. None of them wants the destruction of the human race. But they are getting on in years. Some of them, including the President of the United States, are invalids.

They are all fussed over a thousand little problems in their own countries. None of them hears the Angel of Death hovering over the world. But we do. We have not much time. Perhaps six minutes. At most a few more. Every minute makes a difference more difficult. We should start talking now. And we should never stop.

This is not a question of party or of political creeds. It is a simple question: THE FUTURE OF MANKIND.

Do we want to go on living at all? The present course is bound to end in the destruction of everybody. Then? Heaven's sake let us show some sense and find an alternative.

That alternative exists. It is the alternative of living with Soviet Russia and the Communist world as equals.

If we end the race in nuclear warfare we shall be faced with the political challenge of Communism instead. That will be a hard struggle, but at least we shall be alive to fight it.



"Heavens! The Isle of Wight! Threatens to secede from Britain if no work found for Saunders-Roe men."

A Sea of Troubles

IT'S tough at the top. That is not an elegant phrase, but it has the double merits of brevity and clarity. And the more I study the British political drama, the more I wonder that so many men are ready and eager to take upon themselves the burden of high ministerial office.

My memory goes back to the days when Ramsay MacDonald, hampered by the discontents of his own party, and patronised by the Tories who had captured him for their own devices, made a speech of such meandering incoherence that a Socialist should: "For God's sake, sit down!"

Then there was Neville Chamberlain, who was broken on the wheel because he bought Winston Churchill and even howled at during his Abdication speech that he strode out of the House in a black fury. Indeed, if it had not been for Adolf Hitler, that moment might have been the end of the Churchill story.

Now it is Harold Macmillan who faces such a sen of problems that he might well repeat what David Lloyd George said during his Premiership: "A day in which I have to face only one crisis is like a day off."

Macmillan has a deceptive personality, so much so, in fact, that it sometimes seems as if he is puzzled by himself. A few weeks ago we were told that all his Ministers were overworked, but that he, as Prime Minister, had no department to administer and, therefore, was under no strain whatsoever. In fact, he implied that a Prime Minister was a sort of political sleazebag, punctuated by occasional alarms, excursions and noises off.

Two Fronts

IT is true that Macmillan has the solid virtue of character. He never indulges in the intrigue to reach supreme power, but rose on the collapse of Anthony Eden and the failure of Rab Butler to hold his place as No. 2 in the hierarchy.

Yet the plain truth is that from the day that he took over the Premiership he has had to fight on two fronts in a battle

LONDON LETTER by Sir Beverley Baxter MP

that never pauses. To put it in another way, he is never free of the fierce onslaught of home and foreign affairs.

Inflation is like a potent wine that is not only pleasant to the palate but exhilarating to the soul. Prices go up, wages go up, rents go up. Unhappily people will be fixed income whether in wages, pensions or from all-edged Government bonds see the value of their holdings or their money sinking like the setting sun.

Those Bonds

LOOK at what has happened to the gilt-edged Government bonds issued during the war, or shortly afterwards, at par. What could be better or safer than bonds guaranteed by the State? For brevity's sake let us leave out the fractions and content ourselves with plain basic figures. The issue price in each case was par 100 and here are some of the day's quotations selected at random:

Conversion	61
Fund	64
Consolidated	60
War	61

In other words these investors who put their faith and their money in Treasury Bonds now show a loss varying roughly from one-third to one-half. No wonder that the holders ask themselves if the word "gilt" should have the addition of one other letter of the alphabet.

Admittedly these investors cannot raise an outcry for the double reason that it would be futile and you cannot invoke public sympathy for people fortunate to have money to invest.

By contrast the "iniquitous Rent Act", introduced in the early days of Macmillan's administration, has produced an immense and bitter resentment.

Two Letters

IN a situation like this the individual M.P. finds himself in a strange position. As in Canada, an M.P. is elected on party lines but is the servant of his constituents regardless of party politics. Thus a constituent writes to me that his landlord has delivered an ultimatum to the effect that unless the tenant pays an increased rental he would have to go.

In the same post there would be a letter from a landlord complaining that his tenant refused to pay an increased amount and would I intervene? In fact the worrying but absolutely essential Rent Act has been nothing but a headache from the day that it was born.

Yet all this is of small importance compared with the gyrations of the mighty Trade Union movement. To put it bluntly, the purpose of Trade Unionism is to secure an ever rising standard of living for its members. That is understandable, but it is perfectly obvious that unless increased wages are balanced by increased production the cost of living must go up in union. There is nothing new in this nor is Great Britain the only country which faces such a problem.

Questions

EXCEPT on Friday each day's session in the House of Commons opens first with prayers and then an hour of questions put to the appropriate Ministers who answer for the department. The questions are printed on the Order Paper with the result that the occupants of the public gallery hear this kind of thing:

Mr. Speaker: "Number 21." "The Home Secretary: "No Sir."

But then comes the cut and thrust. The M.P. who has put down the question rises again and says: "While thanking the Minister for his reply I am aware that it will cause dismay throughout the country? (Heard Hear!) Will he not agree in fact that his scrap dismissal of my question is just another example of the innumerable arrogance..."

Mr. Speaker: "Order! Order! The honourable gentleman must not make a speech."

Mr. Speaker: (intervening) "While thanking you, Sir, for

Disenchantment

BY temperament he enjoys a bit of wit but he loathes the bawling and shouting which seems inseparable from Parliamentary democracy. Nor can he look beyond the frontiers of the Island Kingdom for achievements of glory. The triumph of the House of Commons is not easy to hear, nor can he claim that America and Britain are completely of one mind and one voice. As for our closest ally, France, there seems a relentless dipping sunset of the glory that once was hers.

It was said of Stanley Baldwin that he resigned the Premiership without a single regret, and I do not doubt that Macmillan, experiencing the pangs of disenchantment, but it would be a mistake to imagine that his successor would have an easier task.

How simple by comparison is the task of our brandy-swilling friend, Mr. Krushchev of Moscow. Each day he is extolled to the skies by a rabble of men and women who are not only his admirers but his vassals even as they did with Lenin, Trotsky, Stalin and Zhukov in turn. The fact that Trotsky was murdered, that Stalin was undoubtedly poisoned, that Malenkov has been sent to obscurity and that Khrushchev is the new leader of the Soviet Union, is not enough to make the clouds of glory.

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The gipsies would not take me

I T was Gipsy Smith's proud boast that he had never been inside a private — as opposed to a public — house. Yet in a way he put down roots.

From November to April he lived in a cave up-valley, accompanied by a small, wise dog. To most people that cave would have been neither warm nor hygienic, but for him it was home. Often I have sat in it facing him across the fire, trading a bit of plug tobacco for a platter of his rich stew, after which we'd drink alternate tota of rum from the same battered flask.

Feather footed

Gipsy was a small, quiet man with no fuss, always softly spoken. His wire-haired terrier Sal came from the same mould, and I never heard his bark. Together they used to walk up the mountain. It was an education to trail along behind them as I sometimes did.

scuffle, and out should come, accented with a rabbit, but sometimes with a pheasant. It was all the same to them because, as Gipsy used to say, his old iron pot made everything taste alike, provided it had a bit of grease.

When they returned, the contents of his capacious pouches' pocket would be emptied on to the floor of the cave. He hunted only by primitive skill. He had no time for modern contraptions.

No one who ever ate of his rabbit — cum — pheasant — cum — fat bacon stew, thickened with oatmeal and accented with wild herbs, ever forgot it.

By spring the cave needed an airing, so he lived in a little tent on the hillside. When summer arrived his supply of basket-work and clothes-pegs was ready.

He would graze the axle of his pushcart and away they'd go on the great highway, the country side, everywhere welcome until the back-and came

UP COUNTRY by Thurlow Craig

with its rights too cold for sleeping out. Then Gipsy and Sal would return to the cave. One day, while he and Sal were collecting for the pot, the roof of the cave fell in. Gipsy remarked casually in the pub that night that there were 80 golden sovereigns buried in the back, and lived peacefully in his tent until local gold-diggers had cleared the cave out for him — without finding so much as a shilling.

Then he went back, but it wasn't the same. It was too big now, and it leaked at night. So he hit the road and I haven't seen him since.

They of the wandering race seldom put down roots in a house or in any particular fenced little bit of land. An enigmatic people, legend and hearsay have woven wondrous, sometimes fantastic, tales around them. But no tale is so tall as that with which my nurse used to try to frighten me.

They'll steal you

"If you're not a good boy," she'd tell me, "the dirty Gipsies will steal you away, plain your face with walnut juice, and bring you up barefooted. You'll never be heard of again."



Gipsy and Sal... two of a kind

BY THE WAY

by Beachcomber

IN the matter of Art, the veteran pioneers are far more "untrammeled by out-worn shibboleths" (I quote any critic) than their juniors.

Senior Dall, I read, has illustrated "Don Quixote" by "firing lead bullets from a thirteenth-century arquebus." As though this were not enough to tickle the palate of a jaded public, the artist has also made use, for his illustrations, of a small-shell filled with ink and a rhinoceros horn crammed with bread-crumbs soaked in paint. Even young Tomulka, who has only not as far as pouring dandelion-juice on to the canvas through a hole in a dustbin-lid, looks foolish and almost puerile.

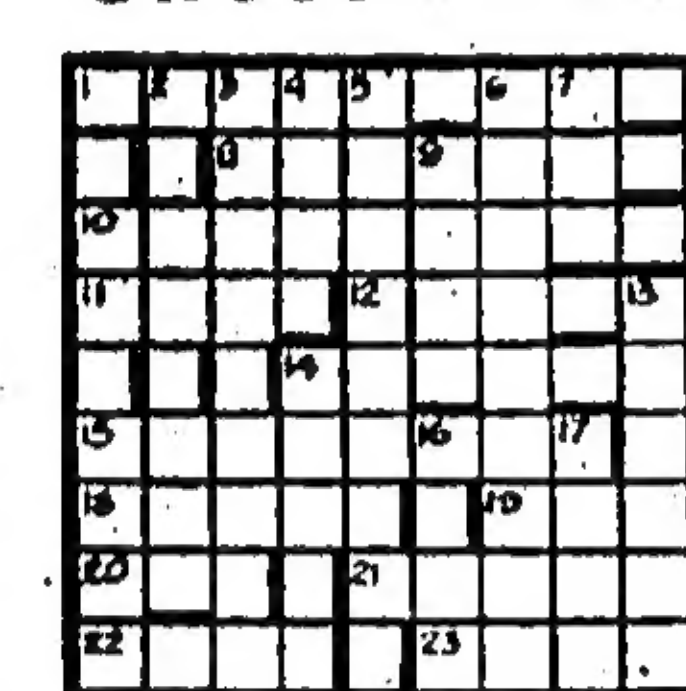
Breaking new ground

PEOPLE often ask how Brezhnev put that magnificent sunset effect into his "Sunrise." The surprise was achieved by sticking warm cheese to the canvas, and then smearing it all over the place with the sleeve of an old coat.

Chaos in court

WHILE counsel were arguing, Mrs. Pasture shouted sulkily: "What about the statutory obligation?"

CROSSWORD



1. It unlocks the lot. (6, 8)
2. Bird. (4)
3. Soapmaker. (9)
4. Bird. (4)
5. Babylonian emperor. (15)
6. Lecture. (10)
7. Love stories. (8)
8. Motionless. (8)
9. Prologue. (8)
10. Puma doctor. (3)
11. French river. (5)
12. Spouse. (4)
13. Snow runner. (4)
14. Hypnotism. (9)
15. Metal. (6)
16. Something said. (10)
17. Car. (4)
18. Co. (4)
19. Scrofula. (10)
20. Summer in France. (10)
21. Extremism. (10)
22. Storms. (10)
23. Hurd. (4)

YOUR BIRTHDAY

By STELLA

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8

BORN today, you are ambitious and visionary. You plan tremendous projects and have quite a time fulfilling your promises, perhaps if you were less grandiose in your schemes and promised less, you might achieve more. You are self-reliant and independent. Harshly, if ever, do you take anyone else's confidence for granted. You believe that actions speak much more loudly than mere words. Often you sound up trial balloons, expanding a potential idea to see how it might be accepted. If the good is not received well, then you drop it like a hot potato and start dreaming about something else.

Your life may not be an easy one, but once you get going on the success trail you will go along a fast pace. Although material success may be a little late in arriving, when it does come, it will prove permanent. You are modest and are too easily depressed. At such times, it is likely that you need a change of scene. If involved in a mental task, go in for some active sports—or even a little house-cleaning! If exhausted from

physical labour, sit down with a good book and listen to some soft music. Soon your mood will change, and you will be ready to rise, perhaps if you were less grandiose in your schemes and promised less, you might achieve more.

Since you have an affectionate and sympathetic nature, you will be happiest if you find quite early in life, for you will be most content when you have your own family and home. For upon them you can lavish your love and attention to your heart's content. And they, in turn, can encourage you to do your best work at all times and help to keep your spirits bright and gay.

Among those born on this date were: Joe Foster, actor; General James Longstreet, Confederate general; Augustus Thomas, playwright; Nicholas Biddle, banker; William M. Gilechrist, composer; and John Carroll, first American Roman Catholic bishop.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 9

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23-Jan. 20)—If in retail merchandising, this should be a profitable day for you. Attend to details that are important to major issues.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21-Feb. 19)—Make a profit in buying and selling, especially if you are in partnership where mutual benefits are concerned.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20)—Sign a contract favourable to your future affairs. Support others in a good idea, but if a poor one, resist.

ARIES (Mar. 21-Apr. 20)—You may combine business and pleasure profitably today. Act upon a matter intuitively if you want the best success.

TAURUS (Apr. 21-May 21)—Green light now for a major objective. See that you make substantial progress toward your ultimate goal.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21)—If you have shopping to do, keep a sharp eye out for a good bargain. It is to be found if only you will hunt out.

CANCER (June 22-July 23)—If you are trying to refurbish your home, then this is a good time to buy the things at a good sale price.

LEO (July 24-Aug. 23)—You may have been working at a little too fast a pace, so take time out today to slow down and rest.

VIRGO (Aug. 24-Sept. 23)—Since you are in the spotlight now, you should be alert to new opportunities to advance your personal interests.

LIBRA (Sept. 24-Oct. 23)—This may be your day to do a real favour for a friend in need of help for something done in the past.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)—Don't count on a new method of doing something until you have tried it out. It could be that it is much better than the old way.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 22)—If you are seeking a new job, then

this may be the day to locate exactly what you want.

physical labour, sit down with a good book and listen to some soft music. Soon your mood will change, and you will be ready to rise, perhaps if you were less grandiose in your schemes and promised less, you might achieve more.

Since you have an affectionate and sympathetic nature, you will be happiest if you find quite early in life, for you will be most content when you have your own family and home. For upon them you can lavish your love and attention to your heart's content. And they, in turn, can encourage you to do your best work at all times and help to keep your spirits bright and gay.

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JACOBY ON BRIDGE

Slam Reached By Slow Steps

By OSWALD JACOBY

HOW do you bid the South cards in match point duplicate after your partner opens with one spade?

Your first response is easy. You just bid two clubs. Your partner raises to three clubs and you certainly are interested in a slam. Maybe you should even get to seven!

There is another match point complication. Heads count more than clubs and you want to explore heart possibilities also.

The hand should be easy, yet when it was played in the Hudson Valley championships it

NORTH (D) 20			
♠ A J 7 2			
♥ 1 0 8 8			
♦ A Q 6			
♣ K 9 6			
WEST		EAST	
♠ Q 9 3		♠ K 1 0 6 5	
♥ K 4 3		♥ 5 2	
♦ J 9 7 5 2		♦ K 1 0 8 4 3	
♣ J 4		♣ 7 3	
SOUTH			
♠ 8 4			
♥ A Q J 7 6			
♦ None			
♣ A Q 1 0 8 5 2			
Both vulnerable			
North	East	South	West
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♣	Pass
2 ♠	Pass	3 ♣	Pass
3 ♠	Pass	4 ♣	Pass
4 ♠	Pass	5 ♣	Pass
6 ♣	Pass	Pass	Pass
Opening lead—♠ 5			

Poughkeepsie, Mr and Mrs Irving Wheatcroft of Kingston earned a top score by bidding six hearts.

Mrs Wheatcroft held the South cards and her second bid was a jump to four hearts. This bid is most unusual but it worked perfectly. Mr Wheatcroft visualized his wife's hand as a good six-card club suit plus a good five-card heart suit.

This left her with only two other cards and his ace of diamonds all right, but did not encourage Mrs. Wheatcroft, since she was void. All she bid was five hearts. Now Mr Wheatcroft was able to close the bidding with six hearts.

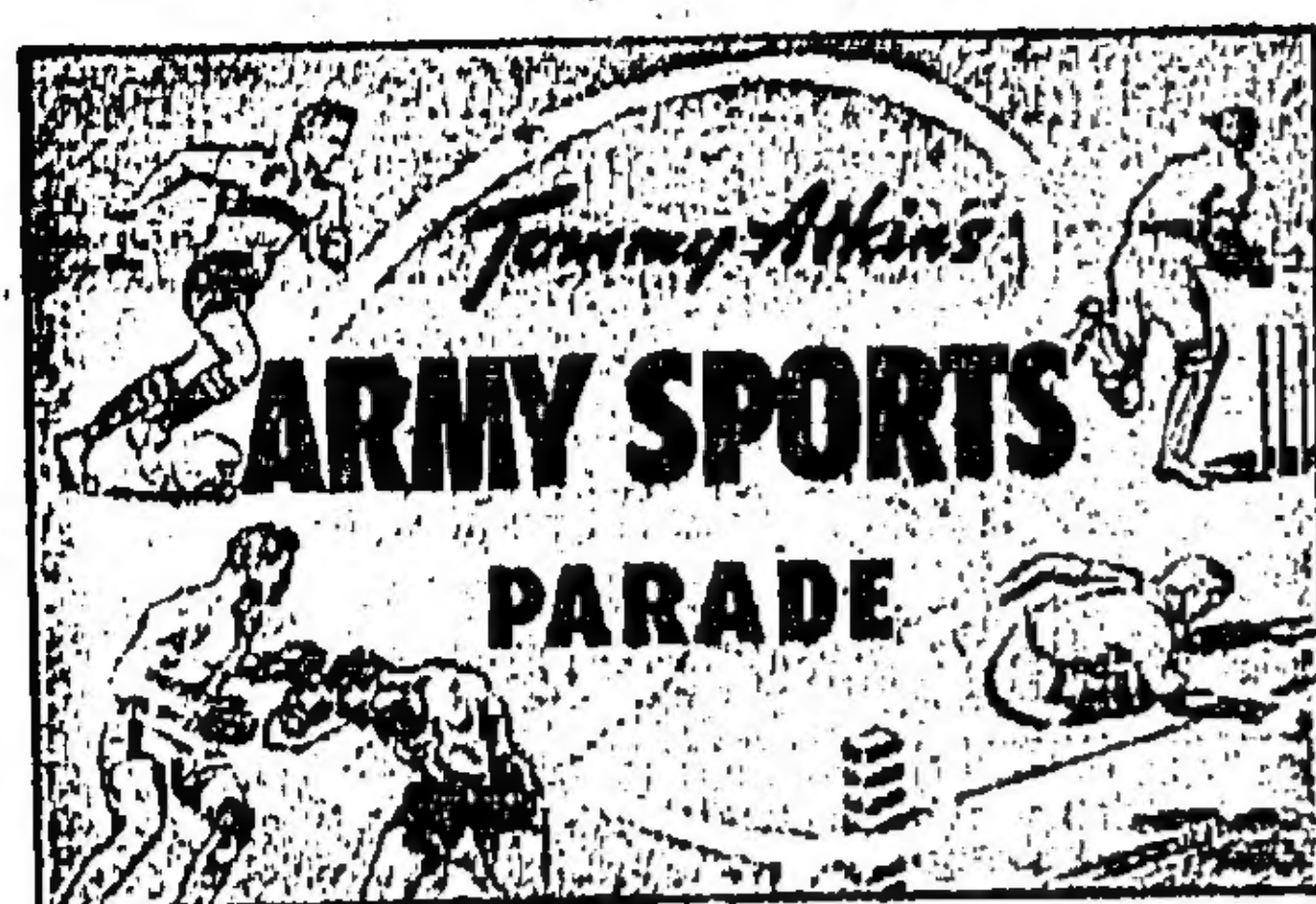
Hence his five-diamond bid. This showed the ace of diamonds all right, but did not encourage Mrs. Wheatcroft, since she was void. All she bid was five hearts. Now Mr Wheatcroft was able to close the bidding with six hearts.

There was nothing to the play. The heart finesse lost and exactly six was made.

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The winning of the Annual New Year's Day Race in this week's subject for spotlight treatment and a well deserved tribute is paid to Sgt. Len Barnes of 11 Infantry Workshops, REME, an athlete of obvious ability.

Still on athletics, several people have in the past criticised the running of the HKAAA's athletic meetings, and when they have been told that these are organised by just a handful of enthusiasts who put in a fantastic amount of voluntary work in an effort to at least have a meeting, many have expressed willingness to help.

Well here's your chance. The HKAAA needs every bit of assistance it can get. The Committee are fully aware that their sports meetings can be improved upon, and they would be with YOUR help. The most pressing need is for a Secretary, a really "eager beaver" type for preference, and if he has a couple of pals so much the better. He can join them with the title "Assistant Secretary", bring them in and make them work. The need really is acute. But for a very few civilian enthusiasts, athletics would die in the Colony, and we in the Army should make it our business to see that does not happen.

All you have to do is drop a line to the Chairman, HKAAA, P.O. Box 280 and indicate in what sphere you are prepared to help. Secretary, announcer, timekeeper, track or field judge, starter, steward and so on. There are plenty of jobs to do really.

Shooting Season

The shooting season is with us again and with Hongkong being known as a C.O.D. seems to be warning of challenges that this year he is not likely to be content with taking second place, when he won, with a record score of 500, the Colony Small-Bore Rifle Championship. The dropping of only one point in a competition of this nature is utterly fantastic shooting, and must make this modest and popular all-round athlete a firm favourite in the ranks of the honours this season, which he lost rather surprisingly last year to ASM Pat Stanbury REME, who has now lost these shores.

Incidentally I notice that Mrs. Clarke has been visiting the ranges with her husband, to such good purpose that she finished up only one point behind the winner of the "C" grade practice shoot a few days ago, and if she continues to improve at this rate, husband Arthur may well have to look to his laurels.

I strongly recommend a visit to the Kai Tak ranges during this meeting, from January 10-20, even if you are not yourself a marksman there will be much of interest for spectators, and if the arrangements are equal to those of last year a very pleasant afternoon is in store for you.

With the time for the arrival of our hockey visitors from Singapore and Malaya drawing near, the final stages of the local competition are being reached and some surprises have been witnessed. Who but an optimist would have predicted the result of the first minor unit semi-final between 6 COD and District Workshops REME as a draw?

Certainly I had "written them off" but from this REME unit of some forty souls, they turned out an eleven and under the watchful eye of their Commanding Officer Major George Williams, REME, plus a dozen or so student supporters, kept out the might of the "Ordnance", and forced a replay. A very creditable performance indeed.

It is true to say that the COD were the better side and skipper Major Gordon Nowak did more than his fair share in attack and defence, but as we must the side they were earlier in the season. Having lost several key players to the curse of all Service team building aspirations, the Troopship, they still carried too many goals for their opponents, and should have won more than easily.

Grand Team Work

That they did not can be placed to the credit of grand team work by every man of the REME XI, and particularly to the excellent play of the defence, goalkeeper Sgt. Jeff Lovelady, WO Fred Arkle, and Sgt. Desmond Dunham who snatched every attack the "Ordnance" team launched.

LAWN BOWLS

The Filipino Club's "Farmers Cup" lawn bowls final will be played on Sunday at 2.30 p.m. followed by tea and presentation of prizes.

FULL JUSTICE HAS BEEN DONE

Ibbotson And Wilkinson Merit The Sportsman And Sportswoman Awards

London.

Are we becoming far too record-conscious in this age of supersonic speed? Are we paying too much attention to the individualists who smash through record barriers and not enough to the sportsmen who achieve greatness less spectacularly in team games?

These thoughts are prompted by the results of a nation-wide poll to elect Britain's Sportsman and Sportswoman of the Year. The winners: Derek Ibbotson and Diana Wilkinson.

Both, you will note, compete in sport as individuals. Both have blazed their way to glory this year by breaking records. Ibbotson ran the fastest mile the world has ever seen, Wilkinson became the first British girl swimmer to break the elusive one-minute barrier over 100 yards.

Undoubtedly such achievements have extra appeal. The label "fastest ever" makes a special impression in the eye of gamblers and speed. Thus, I think, sportsmen who participate in team games are at an immediate disadvantage. Men like Peter May and Dai Rees have given outstanding service to Britain this year, displaying great qualities of leadership and sportsmanship in the field of conquest.

But their achievements rarely create the sensation and mass-appeal of one man or woman succeeding where all others have failed.

This year, however, I do believe that full justice has been done. Ibbotson and Wilkinson merit the award not because of their record-breaking alone, but also because of the fine example of sportsmanship they have displayed throughout the year.

No athlete has shown more keenness and devotion to training as Derek Ibbotson. Indeed, he has been guilty of over-zealousness. He runs for the joy of it and just doesn't seem to know when to stop. He has run until he is over-tired, and he has run until he has become stale.

Incredible Year

Diana Wilkinson has had an equally incredible year. At age of 13, she has become the fastest "woman" swimmer in Britain. In the national championships she made a clean sweep of all English and British senior and junior records for 100 yards and 220 yards women's freestyle. In five days she set up nineteen new records.

Earlier, this curly-haired dimple-cheeked high schooler became the first British woman to swim 100 yards in under a minute. Her time of 59.3 sec was one second inside the British senior record.

Diana, who is only 5ft 2in, is now training hard in the hope of becoming the first British woman to win the European 100 metres title.

No one in Europe has bettered her national championship performance this year and she is Britain's brightest hope for the European Championships next August. In July, she will also gain experience against the best swimmers in the world at the Empire Games in Cardiff. By 1960 she should be an outstanding prospect for a title at the Olympic Games in Rome.

I only hope that she is not allowed to burn herself out as so many promising British swimmers have done.

Donald Campbell is following in the footsteps of his famous father, Sir Malcolm Campbell. But he is doing it in reverse. Sir Malcolm set new marks for the world's land speed record and then turned his attention to the water speed record. Son Donald has captured the world's water speed record; now he's got his eye on the land speed record.

At present he is not willing to give any details of his plans. "You know what happened to the American Sputnik," he quipped.

But the 30-year-old water speed king has said that he hopes to make his attempt in 1958 on the Salt Flats at Utah. The present record, set up by the late John Cobb, who died attacking the water speed record, stands at 394 m.p.h. Campbell wants to be the first man to break up 400 m.p.h. The problem for the designer of his car is to keep the vehicle on the ground. They don't want their machine to be dislodged on the grounds that is an aeroplane.

What's wrong with American tennis? Why have the Americans won so few of the world's major lawn tennis titles last year?

The answers are to be found in the 1957 list which has just been produced by the rankings committee of the US Lawn Tennis Association. Nearly all of the top stars are veterans on present-day lawn tennis standards.

Replacing Hamilton Richardson as No. 1 is that veteran campaigner Vic Seixas, who, at 34, gets top ranking for the third time. Seixas is a great fighter and deserves this place. But there can be no doubt that he is slowing up on court. Second in the men's singles ratings is that wily Californian, Hurlie Flam. At 29, Flam relies on cunning and court craft to make up for his lack of speed and power.

Oldest Ever

The top-ranking doubles pair are Gardner Mulloy and Budge Patty. They must be the oldest pair ever to achieve this honour; their combined ages total 75.

In the women's rankings the picture is not quite so bad. Althea Gibson moves up from No. 2 to become the first coloured girl to achieve top ranking. She is 30 years old but still very powerful and agile, the best woman tennis player in the world.

In second place comes the familiar name of Louise Brough who has been named in the official rankings for the past 16 years. "Broughie" is now 34, and most lethargic on court. And in the women's doubles? Why, Louise comes out on top again with her lifelong partner, Mrs. Margaret du Pont, another star who will never see 30 again.

Now I do not question these rankings. Indeed, they seem to be extremely realistic. That's the trouble. The old-stagers continue to put the younger players in the shade.

Outstanding youngsters are not emerging to take the place of the veterans. Because of this, the Americans have lost their dominance in world tennis to the Australians.

Nearly all the Australian stars are well under 30 years old.

Boosted

Hopes of a thrilling 1958 motor-racing season are considerably boosted by the news that the great Juan Fangio is to drive a Maserati in the Argentine Grand Prix on January 19. This ends the "will drive, won't drive" Fangio rumours. At the age of 47, "The Cat", as Fangio is known, is aiming to snatch the World Championship for the sixth time and for the fifth year in succession.

The news also quashes reports that the Argentine Grand Prix, first of the 1958 world championship series, would not be held because of money troubles. Although the British BRM and Vanwall cars will be non-starters, there should be fierce competition between Fangio and Mike Hawthorn and Peter Collins who will be driving Italian Ferrari cars.

Hawthorn and Collins will also drive Ferraris in the Buenos Aires 1,000 kilometre sports car race on January 26. But this is not a world championship event.

Nine seasons after he last played cricket, the great Don Bradman is back at the wicket again. In addition to his job as Australian cricket selector, he is training the South Australian State team.

After watching them practise, Sir Donald himself went to the nets to play some brilliant strokes for 30 minutes against some of Australia's best bowlers.

There have been reports from Adelaide that he may play for South Australia in first-class cricket. If he does, he can't do any worse than in his last innings.

On his farewell appearance, Bradman went out with a "duck".

Britain's No. 1 hammer thrower, Mike Ellis, who has been working as a temporary postman over Christmas, is trying a new training method in the hope of breaking the world's record next summer.

Ellis set a new British record of just under 212ft last September and next season he plans to reach 225 ft — just 15in, better than the present world best.

He is now training with an 18 lb hammer — 2 lb heavier than the normal implement — and will continue with this weight until the end of January when he should be reaching 200ft.

Then he will go back to the 16 lb hammer to find out the result.

"We are using the lighter hammer occasionally," says his coach Dennis Culum. "So that we can make sure that what Michael is learning with the 18 lb hammer can be used with the lighter one."

No More "Knee"

England cricketer Tony Lock, the man Australian batsmen have learned to fear, has made a remarkable recovery from the recent "make-or-break" operation on his right knee — the wacky knee which threatened to end his brilliant cricket career.

"I feel fine — on top of the world — and that's not just an act, I mean it," he says. "It's only a fortnight since my operation, yet I've already been walking four days. I feel no pain, the stitches are out, and I can put the whole of my right foot on the ground without flinching."

"In fact, I soon hope to throw away those things," he said, pointing to his crutches.

Yes, Tony Lock, still only 23, is rarin' to go — to show that far from being a back number he is as cheek full of good blowing as ever.

Lock is being treated twice a week by the surgeon who attended Denis Compton for knee trouble. He is also having a special boot made, with thick spongy material near the toe and heel, so that when he lands and swells on his right leg much of the "shock" will be absorbed.

Many boxing fans may be surprised to learn that the great Willie Pep is still a very active member of the fighting fraternity.

Indeed, I hear that the former world featherweight champion recently scored a points victory in Boston over Jimmy Connors of Massachusetts. It was his 208th victory.

Pep first won the world title in 1942 when he beat Chalky Wright in New York. Altogether he won it six times, finally losing it in 1951 to his old rival Sandy Saddler.

In all, Pep took part in eleven world title fights, four of them with Saddler. (COPYRIGHT)

THIS AFTERNOON'S RUGBY

24 Field Regiment Favoured To Win Inter-Unit Final

By "PAK LO"

This afternoon at 3.00 p.m. the Army Inter-Unit Final will be played off at the Police ground in Boundary Street. The two finalists are the 24 Field Regiment, and the 1st Royal Tanks.

For half an hour before the match starts, the Band of the East Lancashire Regiment will entertain spectators with selections from their repertoire.

On paper, and from their play last week in the semi-finals, there is little doubt that the 24 Field Regiment will take the field the favourites, for they have a very strong pack led by Wynne, their captain, with such well known names in it as Linham, and Horton, while Oats, the 48 Brigade hooker, is in the front row as hooker.

The Royal Tanks hooker has not shone to any great extent so far, and Oats should easily beat him to the ball in the set scrums. With such a strong pack the 24 Field should get the lion's share of the ball.

The Tanks handling and tackling in the semi-finals left much to be desired, and the 24 Field Regiment, with a

steady if not outstanding three line, should, with their forwards' superiority, win by a reasonable score.

The Tanks have Leppard in defence, but he cannot be expected to do everything, and the 24 should get past him sufficiently to win.

Future Fixtures

Some news of future fixtures have just come to hand. On January 13, Club "B" is scheduled to play Newcastle on the Club ground at 6.30 p.m., and on the January 15, two nights later, Waymouth take the field against the Club at 6.30 p.m. under the floodlights. This game will also be on the Club ground.

This is an annual fixture which used to come at the end of the season, and it has always been a very good game, and as usual it will be followed by one of the Club's famous "Steak and Kidney" dinners.

Last, but by no means least, the Police-Club game scheduled for January 18 will probably be postponed due to the Police Sports, until Wednesday the 22nd when it will be played off on the Club ground at 6.30 p.m.

This weekend brings another "annual" fixture, to wit, the "Talpan" game. This and the curtain raiser will be played on the Club ground on Saturday afternoon, and as all the best players in the Colony take part in these two matches, two excellent games should be the outcome, and a large gathering of spectators is expected.

The Talpan this year is that well known Hongkong personality, Donald Black, of Messrs. Peat, Marwick, and Mitchell. Mr. Black has now been the Honorary Treasurer of the HKFC for high on 27 years.

Boxer Refuses To Travel Tourist Class

Brisbane, Jan. 7. Warner Batchelor, Australia's flyweight champion, has cabled the Johannesburg eight promoters that his Empire title fight against Denis Adams (South Africa), arranged for January 24, is "off" unless they provide him with first class air travel.

Adams is the South African and Empire Champion.

The South African promoters sent a tourist class air return ticket for Batchelor. "There is no comfort in tourist class travel and I could arrive in Johannesburg with hardly any sleep in two days," said the Australian champion.—China Mail Special.

Holland Cup Game Postponed

The first round Holland Cup hockey match between Army "A" and "B" which was scheduled for Sookunpoo today has now been postponed and will be played at the same ground at 3 p.m. on Friday, January 10.

Colony Football League Standings

The following are the Hongkong Football Association League standings up to and including December 31:

1st Division				
	P	W	D	L
South China	12	10	1	1
South China	11	8	1	2
Eastern	10	1	5	4
Shing Po	10	4	3	3
Jardine	10	1	5	4
CAA	10	1	5	4
Police	10	1	5	4
RAF	10	1	5	4

2nd Division				
	P	W	D	L
RAF	10	9	1	0
Police	10	6	1	3
Shing Po	10	1	2	7
South China	10	1	2	7
Eastern	10	1	2	7
CAA	10	1	2	7
Police	10	1	2	7
RAF	10	1	2	7

3rd Division				
	P	W	D	L
AFS	9	7	2	0
Happy Valley	10	6	1	3
Watsons	10	6	1	3
South China	10	6	1	3
Shing Po	10	6	1	3
CAA	10	6	1	3
Police	10	6	1	3
RAF	10	6	1	3

4th Division				
	P	W	D	L
AFS	9	7	2	0
Happy Valley	10	6	1	3
Watsons	10	6	1	3
South China	10	6	1	3
Shing Po	10	6	1	3
CAA	10	6	1	3
Police	10	6	1	3
RAF	10	6	1	3

Police Called To Break Up Crowd At Cricket Match

Georgetown, Jan. 7. The Pakistan cricketers opened their West Indies tour with an unpleasant experience at St. Lucia today when Windward Islands police intervened to break up a crowd demanding their money back after rain had delayed play for over two hours.

The tourists are playing the Windwards in a two-day match. Earlier, the Pakistanis were presented to the Windward Islands Governor, Sir Colville Devereil, who flew here from his headquarters in Grenada, 120 miles away, specially to welcome the tourists.

Sir Colville said: "The Pakistanis are a gay bunch of boys with a high reputation for excellent sportsmanship and skill." —France-Press.

THE GAMBOLS

By Barry Appleby



FIRST TIME
IN HISTORY

Sydney, Jan. 7. Olympic Champion Lorraine Crapp today narrowly defeated Australia's latest swimming wonder, 13-year-old Lisa Kovacs, in the 440-yards free-style final of the Women's New South Wales Swimming Championships here.

In the first race in swimming history in which two girls finished the quarter-mile distance inside five minutes, Miss Crapp clocked 4:58.2 and little Lisa, daughter of Latvian immigrants, 4:59.8.

Outside figure skating, it was probably the most amazing performance in postwar sports.

The two Australian girls clearly won their duel with the visiting Dutch mermale, Corrie Schimmel, the only other female swimmer who has cracked the five-minute barrier for the quarter-mile. She finished a disappointing third today, clocking 5:13.5.

Although a new world record had been expected to result from the clash of the three "under five" swimmers, Miss Crapp's winning time was 9.6 seconds off her world record.—United Press.

SPORTS

ENGLISH & AMERICAN
HEAVY WEIGHT

"Let's have it again, Bud, that very humorous glib about American satellites"

London Express Service

Indonesians Lose

Djakarta, Jan. 7. The touring Czechoslovak soccer team, Redstar, from Bratislava beat an Indonesian Armed Forces team 1-0 yesterday in Bandung in their second match in Indonesia.

The Redstar's outside-right Gajdetz scored just before half time.—Reuter.

Aussie Touring
Cricketers Dismiss
County XI

Pretoria, Jan. 7. Australia's touring cricketers dismissed a County Eleven for 103 here today and then scored 22 without loss before the close of the first of two days play.

The last six wickets of the Home side fell for only 25 runs after the scoreboard had shown 138 for four.

The Australians whipped out the Home batsmen in four hours despite the handicap of a makeshift attack.

With fast bowlers Alan Davidson, John Drennon and Ian McKeliff all receiving specialist treatment in Johannesburg for arm and leg injuries, the tourists fielded just one recognised bowler—all-rounder Richie Benaud, and even he was restricted to "seamers" because of a sore spinning finger.

Most damaging Australian attacker was batsman Bob Simpson, who sent down his leg breaks for 25 overs to take five for 61.

Jim Burke followed him with four for 40.—Reuter.

THEY SEEK HIM EVERYWHERE

Time And Possibly A Few
Defeats Will Tell Whether
Spinks Has It Or Not

By GEORGE WHITING

London.

They seek him here, they seek him there, they seek him darn near everywhere. I am referring to Terry Spinks. What a difference a year makes. Just 13 months ago, this London lad with a delicate air was pacing nervously up and down a patch of dusty Australian grass soliciting advice on how to avenge himself on a thick-shouldered Russian who had bedevilled him in Moscow's Dynamo Stadium a few months earlier.

"I'm having nightmares about this geezer," said Britain's Olympic flyweight from Morgan Street, Canaling Town. "How can I fix him?"

I suggested the hit-and-hop routine, and Spinks, describing diligent efforts round the representatives of Pakistan, the Argentine, Russia, France and Rumania, won himself a gold medal.

Somehow or other, the news leaked, and Master Spinks arrived home to open batons, cat official dinners, model for Tussaud, and have a giraffe named after him.

Eighteen-year-old Terry was swept along on a tide of public acclaim, and now, down in the tiny house in Morgan Street, you have to pick your way through the glittering fets of pots, pans, plectrums and illuminated addresses.

Progress Report

Note to burglars: The loot is locked up at night, and Terry's father, bookmaker "Toby" Spinks, carries the Olympic medal around with him when the house is empty.

And since the Olympics? I called for a progress report, and he stated categorically that Terence George Spinks, just one year away from what he inelegantly calls the "cup and saucer" boxing of the amateurs, is more than holding his own among the allegedly rougher

centry of the strictly cash persuasion.

So frail, so pale, Terry'll chop him to pieces, the experts said, when he persuaded a tearful Mum to let him go out and play professional punching with the older boys.

What they never knew, of course, was that this wall-like Cockney had quicksilver in his legs, packed a fairish wallop, was afraid of nobody, had been punching his elders on the nose since he weighed 8st. 11lb, and had once broken the rib of a senior layabout who picked the wrong moment to make jokes.

Were the wee-brigade right? Not yet, anyway. At 18, Terry Spinks has squared up to 11 professional opponents in eight months, licked the lot, and become popular with promoters for his ability to sell £200-worth of tickets every time he strips.

His Business

On the business side—and how that boy likes his business!—Master Spinks is already lining out about income tax. He received £250 for his first commercial fight, sports seven pairs and 14 pairs of shoes from Shaftesbury Avenue, can afford long-playing Sinatra, has begun the purchase of a confectionery store, and is dreaming dreams of a nice little property out Winstead way for Mum and Dad.

Pugilistic purse-money is, of course, treated as top-secret by the gents with thin lips and thick ears, but I would say that Terry Spinks has already earned himself £2000. And I would also say that you would get a rude answer if you offered his management less than £200 per appearance—large halls or important opponents, up to £400.

"I like this lark a lot better than clock-watching," says this nimble nipper, who, in his time, has run away from racing stables, looked with disapproval on the commercial bottling of gin, walked out of a meat market, and stepped down from the pedestal of lorry-driver's mate.

Round The World

The Spinks history book tells of fights in Australia, Russia, Poland, Finland, Germany and Switzerland. He has dropped in on New York and San Francisco. He dresses nattily, but is no latter-day Edwardian fop. He fights because he was born to fight—though he would sooner talk about the horses he once exercised across Newmarket Heath.

Above all, he has brains enough to work at his chosen trade. If you doubt it, wait for his tiny legs belting towards the allotments on the Beckton Road at 6.30 every morning, rain or shine; then follow him to Joe Lucy's gymnasium in Barmendsey every noon.

At the moment Terry's off-duty hours are more concerned with food and films than with the opposite sex—though manager Sammy Buckingham and trainer Snowy Buckingham have made their point that steak, eggs, chips, cream cakes and tea are not the ideal hors d'oeuvre for a professional fight.

Time To Learn

With two years to go before the boxing law permits him to challenge for a Championship, the boy from Morgan Street has time to absorb experience round the lesser rings, to build a bank balance, and to avoid the lumps and bumps that fall to the lot of those who would run before they can walk in the boxing business.

Time—and possibly a few defeats—will tell whether Terry Spinks has what it takes to make an immortal. For the

Tulloch Under
Veterinary
Treatment

Sydney, Jan. 7. Champion mchorse, Tulloch, for whom an overseas trip to England and America is planned for later this year, is under a cloud.

Tulloch has been under veterinary treatment for a skin complaint for some weeks, and despite a statement by a veterinary surgeon yesterday that Tulloch was fit, experienced track observers here are not so sure.

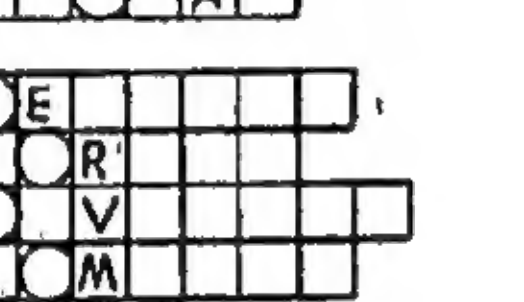
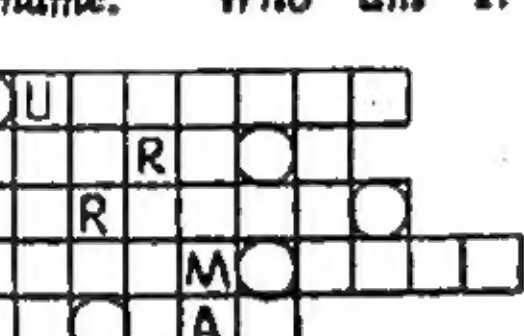
After watching Tulloch gallop on the track today they said he was short in action.

A big Southern Hemisphere autumn programme has been planned for the New Zealand bred colt, his main aim being the Queen Elizabeth Stakes, which will be witnessed by the Queen Mother when she is coming Australian tour.—China Mail Special.



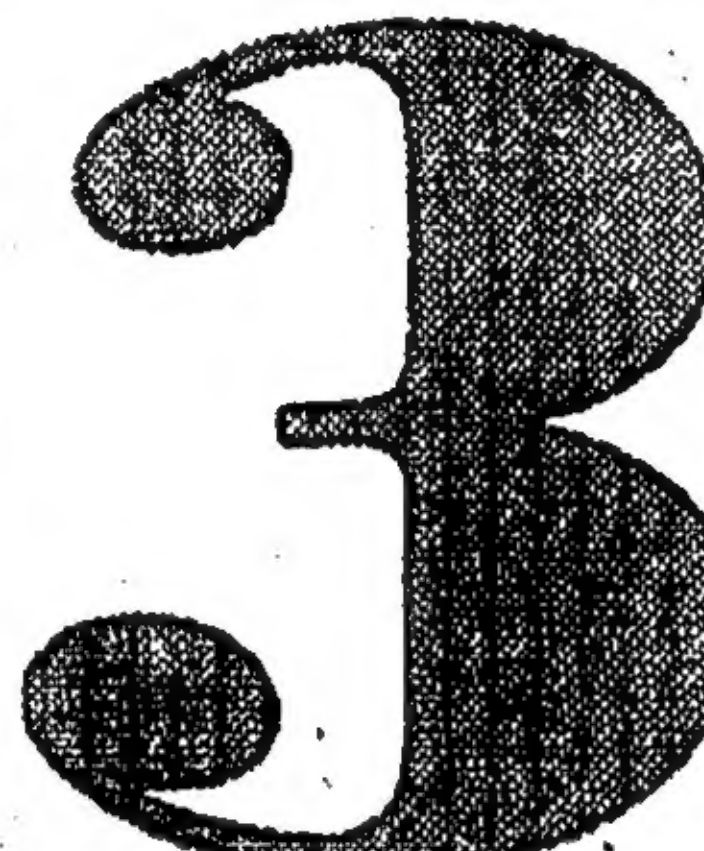
NAMESAKES

INSTRUCTIONS: Fill in the spaces against each of the clues below with a word related to my life. The letters in circles spell out my name. Who am I?



Solution on Page 9

- 1 Difficulty
- 2 Romantic
- 3 Old African city
- 4 Have six feet
- 5 Legendary founder of Rome
- 6 Not hope
- 7 Epic poet
- 8 Piety
- 9 Love affair

Be Specific—fly
CATHAY
PACIFIC

flights weekly to
MANILA

Terry Spinks...
baby with the
bombs

Sports Diary

TODAY

Baseball: All Hongkong & Wacker Football Team at Hongkong Stadium, 6.30 p.m.

Rugby: Finals of FAIRLY Rugby Competition at Police ground, Boundary Street, 3 p.m.

Cricket: Triangular Tournament: Combined RAF & Navy v Army, HKCC, 11 a.m.

MANDRAKE THE MAGICIAN



By Lee Falk and Phil Davis

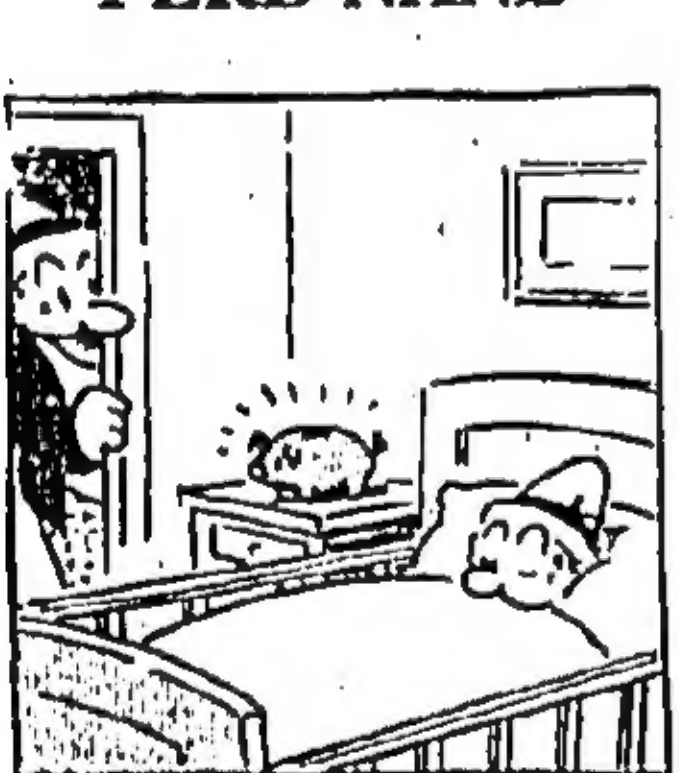
There's More than Magic in

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NANCY



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FA CUP REPLAY

Bristol, Jan. 7. Bristol City beat Accrington Stanley 3-1 in their Third Round English FA Cup replay here this evening.

In the Fourth Round Bristol City are away to Notts County.

Baby's First Years
RECORD BOOK
and
The Lactogen
MOTHER BOOK

THE LACTOGEN MOTHER BOOK is an 87 page publication with a commonsense approach to all the important aspects of Motherhood. Not only during the days of waiting but during the early months of life when there will be laid the foundation of a happy and healthy childhood. This publication covers such subjects as preparation for Motherhood, the premature baby, the first months, baby's routine, Artificial feeding, breast feeding, teething, minor ailments associated with infancy.

BABY'S FIRST YEARS RECORD BOOK, a really smart publication with pages for the recording of many fascinating details of baby's birth, progress, christening, first remarks and actions, photographs and family tree, etc.

Please send me a copy of the LACTOGEN Mother Book ☐
Please send me a copy of the Baby's First Years ☐
Please send me a copy of the both publications ☐

NAME

ADDRESS

I expect Baby about / My Baby's age is

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9/17/57

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NOTICE
Notice is hereby given that
the Inaugural General Meet-
ing of the Members of the
Hong Kong Branch of The
Royal Naval Association will
be held in the Volunteer
Centre, Queen's Road, Hong
Kong at 6 p.m. on Friday,
10th January, 1958.

All Members are requested
and those interested—
whether serving or ex-Servic—
are invited to attend.

L. McDONNELL GREEN
Hon. Secretary
Hong Kong Branch, Royal
Naval Association.

To ADVERTISERS

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H. KING WOOD REPORTS IN OUR AUSTRALIAN NEWSLETTER:

Christmas In Sydney With The Temperature At 90 At Midnight

The Old Year ended with one of the best gifts possible for parched Sydney—a drizzly rain, too fine to do much for our depleted water supply but exactly as ordered for the near-dead gardens of suburbia.

Sydney (By Airmail).
The year hasn't closed on exactly a happy note. There are few parts of the State which have not been blasted by the worst bushfires in memory; it has been the driest year for nearly 70; wool prices are falling and the wool clip next year will tumble downwards as we catch the legacy of the drought.

But on the other side of the picture, unemployment is at its lowest point for a considerable time; the holiday road toll is well down on last year and we maintained our habit of keeping the Davis Cup.

There is nothing deadlier or staler than Christmas by the time January comes along, but it is worth recording even at this late stage that never before were so many Christmas dinners left uneaten or uneaten as this year. A temperature of more than 100 degrees did little to entice women into furnace-like kitchens and as the thermometer remained around the 90's until after midnight, few had the inclination or energy to eat.

Record Term

The NSW Premier, Mr. Cahill, had a Christmas present on December 24 when he established a record as Labour Premier of NSW. He has been Premier for five years, eight months and 23 days, beating the record held by (now) Sir William McKell. Record term for a NSW Premier is held by Sir Bertram Stevens who headed a non-Labour Government for more than seven years.

The vast jig-saw puzzle of the 200 mile Snowy River Scheme is bit by bit being fitted into place, and by the winter

PARAMOUNT GETS NEW PRESIDENT

Mr James E. Perkins has been named President of Paramount International Films, Inc. It was announced last month in New York by George Weltner, Vice-President in charge of world sales for Paramount Pictures Corporation. The appointment is effective from January 1, 1958.

Mr Weltner declared that Mr Perkins' experience of more than thirty years in every phase of foreign distribution had made him the ideal choice for the post. "His executive and administrative ability," stated Mr Weltner, "coupled with his inspiring leadership, have been demonstrated time and time again. He is a dedicated man, loyal and sincere, and devoted to Paramount."

Mr Perkins joined Paramount in 1925 as branch manager in Tokyo, Japan. Successively, he was named Shanghai branch manager, opening the company's first China office in 1929; in 1937 becoming divisional manager for Japan, China and the Philippines; and in 1941 adding India and the entire Far East to his division.

In 1944, he was named division manager for the entire Far East plus Australia, New Zealand and South Africa. In 1946, Mr Perkins was named managing director for Paramount in Great Britain, remaining in England until 1955, when he returned to New York to make his headquarters at the Paramount Home Office as executive Vice-President of Paramount International Films, which position he has held until now.

Many Months

Mr J. J. Clark is a Labour member of the Federal Parliament with a square, determined chin and in the Government—the annoying habit of when wanting some unpleasant information, sisking to it until he gets it.

It is many months ago since he asked the Prime Minister, in the House.

★ What is the number of existing boards and committees that are in existence under parliamentary authority?

★ What are these bodies and what are their various functions?

Not without some misgivings, Mr Menzies promised to dig up the information, but indicated that it would take some time to do so.

Mr Clark, who is too old a parliamentarian hand to expect miracles—and who had some idea of the work involved in the question he asked—waited and waited. Every now and then, to keep the subject on the floor, he gave the PM a piece by question time. One of the public servants, detailed to find the information, protested: "Mr Clark, you've given us a hell of a job."

Split Up

But a few days ago, the answer in all its stark nakedness reached Mr Clark in a very bulky envelope.

It revealed that the most important business of the nation is at present being done by 237 main boards and committees. That, of course, is not the full story. Many of these boards and committees are split into smaller boards and sub-committees. For instance, the Valuation Board (which values properties disputed by tax-payers) has 14 other boards scattered around the States; The Tradesmen's Rights Regulation Act has six committees and these are split into 36 sub-committees so that the number of boards under some sort of name probably runs into well over the thousand mark.

Mr Clark has been a little puzzled about the coal situation. Firstly, there is the Joint Coal Board which has the job of "managing the adequate production of coal in NSW and to ensure that coal resources are conserved, used, and the coal distributed to the best advantage."

Then there is the Coal Industry Board, whose job is to "examine aspects of the coal industry," and then there is the Coal Export Committee which is

to "promote the export of coal."

Mr Clark has a rough idea that all these boards could be done by one board but, having finally achieved this bewildering array of information, Mr Clark now proposes to ask some more awkward questions.

He is going to ask what members of all these boards and so forth, get in the way of allowances and expenses; the cost of their cars and travelling expenses; what clerical staff they have and their total wage bill; how often these boards meet; and, finally—a nasty one—why the business of government is farmed out to so many people who have so little responsibility to the people.

The answer to all this could take so long to produce that the Government could well be out of office before it is accomplished.

Moo-Wooing

Police Prosecutor, Sergeant Emmett, unhappily, announced in Paddington (Sydney) Court this week that in this mechanical, even wooing is mechanical.

He was commenting on the case of a young electrician who fitted to his car a device which mooed.

A detective told the court that (now) Sir Bondi Beach promenade he heard a cow's moo and twice a bell ringing. He found an old-fashioned car horn and a bell wired up under the bonnet of a car. He added that many of the young men now had horns and similar attachments to attract girls on the promenade.

Mr Ronald Masters, the electrician who wooed with a moo, may find it a little cheaper in the future to stick to the old-fashioned method because his mechanical attempt cost him a few.

Gardeners

Since the Sydney Water Board imposed garden-water restrictions a month ago—hoses are completely banned—and gardens can be watered only from cans—a new race of gardeners have developed in the garden suburbs.

The Water Board people frown on this sort of thing and now they are using night-flying squads in radio cars which are said to be armed with detectors that can pick up the ticking of the water meter.

The Board has also announced that more than 500 people are slated to appear before courts for illegally using water.

Incidentally, most people are honestly obeying the restrictions but all are grumbling that next year there will be not a reduction in their water rates—indeed, with rising values, most of them are likely to be higher.

MOVE TO SAVE CHAMOIS FROM EXTINCTION

By HERBERT STERNBERG

Munich, Jan. 7.

Bavarian state foresters are rounding up flocks of chamois in a mountain enclosure in the hope of finding a means of saving this mountain game animal from extinction in the German Alps.

American servicemen, many of them keen shots, volunteered to help to build the twelve foot high fence round the enclosure. For five weeks, they cleared rocks, drilled holes, transported steel posts, and anchored them in rock to make the fence resistant to the pressure of snowdrifts.

Signs on the fence warn sportsmen that this is a reservation and that they must not shoot the chamois inside.

The Mange

State veterinary surgeons and other scientists are studying the captured chamois in the hope of finding a cure for chamois mange, or scroptis, a disease which spread to the herds in the eastern Bavarian Alps from Austria after World War II. Foresters say that this is the main reason why the number of chamois in Bavaria has fallen from 22,000 in 1930 to 15,000 today.

Besides the mange, the shy chamois also suffer from the ever-increasing invasion of tourists on to slopes and peaks not long ago accessible only to skilled mountaineers. As a result, the chamois have retired into the steep northern slopes of the mountains where they find less fodder and are in greater peril of falling over precipices.

The chamois has always been difficult and dangerous because it involves perilous climbs. But the animals' retreat into the northern slopes has added to the dangers, and trophies have become correspondingly more valuable.

The Beard

Trophies consist of the thin, dark horns which grow upwards from the animal's forehead and bend down again at the tips, and the chamois "beard," a tuft of dark brown or black hair, which grows on the backs of adult bucks during the mating season only.

It is a matter of personal pride to a Bavarian to decorate his hat with a "Gamsbart," or chamois beard. North Germans privately refer to it as a "silencing brush."

Old folk in the Bavarian mountains will tell you that in some Alpine villages girls used to reject marriage proposals unless the suitor could show a chamois beard from an animal which he himself had shot. If the beard has silvery hairs it is

particularly prized, because it has come from an old buck which must have been especially difficult to track and shoot.

Prosecutions

Numerous prosecutions have shown that poachers have often risked imprisonment merely to become the proud owners of a chamois beard.

Films about poachers are the West German equivalent of the American "western." Just as the sheriff eventually rounds up the bad men in the "western," the foresters always catch their poacher.

Forestry officials ascribe the persistence of poaching largely to the fact that to hunt the chamois legally is a very expensive business. Anyone who wants to shoot a chamois must first get a shooting licence, for which the local authorities charge up to 200 West Marks (about £17). In addition, he needs a certificate proving that he has passed the "hunter's examination."

British sportsmen normally get the licence relatively easily because the forestry authorities accept the qualifications they need at home. But Americans have to take a course before applying for the licence.

Allocate

Once you have the hunting licence you are still far from shooting a chamois. You must also find someone to "allocate" a chamois to you. This may be the private owner of a forest or the local administrator of a state forest. Whoever it is, it costs about 100 West Marks (about £8.10s).

When at last all the legal hurdles have been overcome and the chamois shot, the huntsman is only entitled to the head and the "beard." The meat and skin go to the state authorities.

The meat is regarded as a delicacy and is therefore often served to prominent visitors by the Bavarian State Government. While chamois, which have a silvery skin instead of the normal light brown, are very rare, Bavarians regard them as unlucky, possibly because of the stuffed white chamois which is displayed at a museum in Salzburg, in Austria. This animal is said to have been shot by the Archduke Francis Ferdinand, nephew of the Emperor Francis Joseph of Austria, before he himself was killed at Sarajevo in 1914 by the shots which unleashed World War I.—China Mail Special.

The Roaring Twenties



Ann Blyth and Paul Newman in a dramatic scene from "The Helen Morgan Story."

"THE Helen Morgan Story," which comes to the Lee and Astor today, is another story rung out of that period which is now known as the "Roaring Twenties."

So much happened in those days of the racketeer, the gunman, the gangster chief of city, that American writers are finding a rich strike there for the asking.

What happened was, night club entertainers had no choice except to work for big time

fame and subsequent fall to near tragedy. The film begins with Miss Morgan's attempt to reach the heights of show business stardom as a torch singer.

The great loves of her life are portrayed by Paul Newman and Richard Carlson playing Larry Maedun, a notorious bootleg racketeer, and Russell Wade, one of New York's leading citizens, respectively.

As stardom comes within her grasp, true happiness evades her.

"This is a very good film of that lawless period of American history, and yet it is supplied at the same time, so much colour that countless novels and films are beginning to flow, recalling its Jazz Age.

There was a Helen Morgan. She began in the chorus at Coliseum in Chicago during the twenties. Furthermore, Al Capone was the bouncer there, but the history of that kind of gangsters has already been told.

I recommend this film to all that increasing number who are beginning to become intrigued by this fascinating period, and to know what made it roar along to inevitable destruction. What is more fascinating is the rise it gave to the mobsters who ruled every aspect of American life.

"The Helen Morgan Story" is one of the most powerful to come out of that crazy time, as she, designated the Goddess of the Jazz Age, moved against its glowing lights.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE CENTRE IN TOKYO

Tokyo, Jan. 7.
A MAMMOTH international trading centre, to be built in Tokyo Harbour, will, it is hoped here, become one of "the greatest permanent industrial shop windows in Asia and the Far East."

Japanese officials and businessmen sponsoring the project hope to start work on the foundations early in 1958. It will take four years to complete, at a total cost of approximately 4,500 million yen (about 24,500,000).

Under present plans, a wide range of goods, from textile and agricultural machinery to cameras, lighters and nylon socks, will be displayed to attract foreign buyers, especially those from Southeast Asia and the Middle and Near East. The emphasis will be on heavy machinery.

In addition to bringing in the customers, the centre is intended to demonstrate the economic achievements of Japan by displaying facts and figures about all her industries and their products.

This will also be the Tokyo site for the annual Japan International Trade Fair, held in alternate years here and at Osaka.

Mr Tomitaro Hosoi, Executive Director of the Tokyo International Trade Fair Commission, who acts as the spokesman, said that the centre would be completed in two stages. The pavilions for heavy industrial displays with a total floor space of 24,000 square yards, should be completed by April 1959.

The "advantage of the new centre will, it is considered, be to enable busy businessmen from all over the world to inspect Japanese goods at first hand, see Japanese machines in operation, conduct business, deals and complete exchange and trade dealings without loss of time. Businessmen here believe that it will greatly assist Japan's all-out drive to increase exports—China Mail Special.

China Mail Entertainment Guide

WHAT'S ON TONIGHT

ROXY & BROADWAY: "Guilty?" John Justin, Barbara Laage in a suspense thriller.
KING'S & PRINCESS: "Swamp Women." "Tillie's Punctured Romance," with Charlie Chaplin. A double feature.

LEE & ASTOR: "The Helen Morgan Story." Ann Blyth and Paul Newman in the Roaring Twenties.

QUEEN'S & ALHAMBRA: "Hamlet." Laurence Olivier.

STAR: "Doctor In The House." Donald Sinden and Kay Kendall in a British comedy.

METROPOLE: "Magic Bow." Stewart Granger.
HOOPER & LIBERTY: "Les Girls." A sparkling show that lets in the New Year with a bang. Gene Kelly, Milti Gaynor, Kay Kendall, and Taina Elg.

RITZ: "The Broken Star." Howard Duff in a Western.

CAPITOL: "Operation Mad Ball." Jack Lemmon in a hilarious comedy.

ORIENTAL: "Only The Valiant." Gregory Peck.
MAJESTIC: "Fanny By Gaslight." James Mason and Stewart Granger.

RADIO HONGKONG

8.30 p.m. Evening Serenade—"Italy After Dark"; 9. Time Signal; 9.55. Weather Report; 10.00. "The Big News"; 10.10. Commentary; 10.15. Meridian Chime; 10.20. Serenade; 10.25. Time for Jazz with Robin Day; 10.30. First Hearing presented by Ronald Deputy; 10.35. Music for You with Eric Robinson and his Orchestra; 10.40. News and Home News from Britain; 10.45. Wednesday Theatre: "The Diary of a Madman" by Noel Coward; 10.50. Oliver with his Singing Orchestra and Hammond Organ; 10.55. Lee Egart and his Dance Orchestra; 10.55. Weather Report; 11.00. Time Signal; Radio Newswatch; 11.05. Joe Bush Plays; 11.30. Close Down.

REDIFFUSION

3 p.m. Variety Calls the Tune; 3.30. Wednesday Concert—Mendelssohn, Schumann, Op. 10, No. 1, Schumann, Op. 10, No. 2, Schumann, Op. 10, No. 3, Schumann, Op. 10, No. 4, Schumann, Op. 10, No. 5, Schumann, Op. 10, No. 6, Schumann, Op. 10, No. 7, Schumann, Op. 10, No. 8, Schumann, Op. 10, No. 9, Schumann, Op. 10, No. 10, Schumann, Op. 10, No. 11, Schumann, Op. 10, No. 12, Schumann, Op. 10, No. 13, Schumann, Op. 10, No. 14, Schumann, Op. 10, No. 15, Schumann, Op. 10, No. 16, Schumann, Op. 10, No. 17, Schumann, Op. 10, No. 18, Schumann, Op. 10, No. 19, Schumann, Op. 10, No. 20, Schumann, Op. 10, No. 21, Schumann, Op. 10, No. 22, Schumann, Op. 10, No. 23, Schumann, Op. 10, No. 24, Schumann, Op. 10, No. 25, Schumann, Op. 10, No. 26, Schumann, Op. 10, No. 27, Schumann, Op. 10, No. 28, Schumann, Op. 10, No. 29, Schumann, Op. 10, No. 30, Schumann, Op. 10, No. 31, Schumann, Op. 10, No. 32, Schumann, Op. 10, No. 33, Schumann, Op. 10, No. 34, Schumann, Op. 10, No. 35, Schumann, Op. 10, No. 36, Schumann, Op. 10, No. 37, Schumann, Op. 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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8, 1958.

N. CELEBES PROVINCE PROCLAIMED

Djakarta, Jan. 7. The "governor" of the self-proclaimed province of North Celebes told Indonesian today his province was "a reality."

A broadcast from Menado, which was named capital of the new province, said Governor H. D. Manoppo today installed heads of departments of his Government.

Earlier this week, Manoppo announced he was severing administrative and financial ties with Makassar, the capital of Celebes province. Meanwhile, Makassar radio reported that Garuda Indonesian airline flights to Menado via Bone were cancelled on Sunday and Monday without explanation.

AIR SERVICE

Earlier reports said direct air service between Makassar and Menado had been suspended.

Manoppo said in his broadcast that the province of North Celebes was "a reality" for which there will be no bargaining. He claimed the separate status of the province had been recognised by the Central Government which last July sent a mission to the area.

Djakarta was silent on the developments in the Celebes. The region's military commander, Major Sombu, is in Djakarta now for talks with the army Chief of Staff.—United Press.

Bus Crash

London, Jan. 7. Two bus passengers were killed, and 21 others were injured tonight, when two double-decker buses collided at Northampton, near Middlesbrough. One of the buses turned over.—France-Press.

THORNEYCROFT CRITICISED: RESIGNATIONS UNNECESSARY SAYS MINISTER

Temporary Headquarters For Little Europe

Paris, Jan. 7. Foreign Ministers of the six "Little Europe" nations named Luxembourg and Brussels today as the temporary headquarters of the European Common Market, Atomic Pool and Coal-Steel Pool.

Italian Foreign Minister Giuseppe Pella, who presided over the two-day meeting, announced when it ended that the six nations—France, Germany, Italy and the three Benelux countries—will decide before June first on a permanent capital of Europe.

The Ministers "unanimously decided" on the principal of a common headquarters, Pella said. But national rivalries had prevented them from doing so today.

UNANIMOUSLY

The Ministers, however, unanimously appointed high officials for the European Communities as follows:

President—Louis Armand of France, Chairman of the Nationalised French railroads.

European—Walter Hallstein, West German Deputy Foreign Minister.

Coal-Steel Pool—Paul Finet, Belgian Christian Democratic Labour leader.

European Investment Bank—Pietro Castelli, chairman of the Bank of Reconstruction of Southern Italy.—United Press.

London, Jan. 7. Several British Cabinet Ministers spoke in different parts of the country about the resignation last night of Mr Peter Thorneycroft, Chancellor of the Exchequer, and two of the top aides in the Treasury—and all of them were critical of his action.

Mr R. A. Butler, the Home Secretary, who will stand for the Premier, Mr Harold Macmillan, while he is on his British Commonwealth tour—said the split between Mr Thorneycroft and the rest of the Cabinet arose from his demand that they fix Government expenditure at last year's level before the Prime Minister left on his Commonwealth tour today.

Bluntly

Mr Butler added: "A government cannot exactly foresee until the estimates are presented to them—and these were presented only at the turn of the year—what its commitments will be."

"It is said this is a struggle between those who are politically hesitant and weak and what is described as the tough line that the courage is all on one side."

"I would like to say quite plainly and bluntly that other people besides the retiring Chancellor of the Exchequer are entitled to their own convictions, and their own particular brand of courage."

One junior Minister, Mr Hamar Nicholls, asserted that all the Cabinet and the three "rebels" should "have their heads knocked together."

Mr Nicholls, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Works, said the resignations were unnecessary.

He said that if Mr Thorneycroft had succeeded in keeping Government expenditure within £50 million of last year's total "the

must have won many battles with the spending departments."

Mr Nicholls added: "On the other hand, of course, it is open to wonder that the rest of the Cabinet thought fit to cavil at a further £50 million reduction in a £4,000 million budget."

Lord Mills, Minister of Power, said in a statement that the "application of the rigid formula insisted upon by the Chancellor at short notice would have taken us beyond what the rest of us thought practical and so, to the regret of all, we had to part company."

Mr Duncan Sandys, Minister of Defence, told a meeting that the question which divided Mr Thorneycroft from his Cabinet colleagues was whether it was right to slash the social services to close a relatively small gap in expenditure.

Wage Demands

He added: "Quite apart from the moral aspect, we felt that such action by putting up the cost of living, would inevitably stimulate fresh wage demands which might well cost the national economy at least 10 times as much as the sum which Mr Thorneycroft was seeking to save."

"It was a case of failing to see the wood for the trees,"—Reuter.

DESPERATE APPEAL ON FIR TREE

Udine, Jan. 7. A desperate appeal from an Italian alpine soldier, who claimed he was prisoner of the Russians in Siberia, was found carved on a fir tree which arrived in a lumber yard at nearby Villasantina in Italy today.

The message was found by workmen unloading a train of 140 fir trees shipped from Russia via Czechoslovakia last December. They entered the Italian frontier station of Tarvisio on December 29.

The message, in Italian, said: "I have been a prisoner of the Russians in Siberia for 15 years. I am an alpine soldier. Help me."

The name on the tree was unreadable as it had been deteriorated by the resin of the tree, but it appeared to be Giuseppe Pischisio.—United Press.

BROKE HIS PROMISE

Bury St Edmunds, Jan. 7. A 27-year-old Irishman, gaol-ed today for breaking into a laundry, lamented to the judge that he had let down "the best in the world."

William O'neill, of Clonmel, Tipperary, who didn't return to corrective training at Maldstone after a week's leave last May, said he "went on the drink" and broke into the laundry. O'neill said the governor had trusted him. "I worked on the farm so I could say I was not in prison,"—China Mail Special.

Opium Seized

A Chinese was arrested in the Western District yesterday evening following the seizure of 30 tons of opium by the Police.

Snatching

A pair of gold earrings was snatched from a 65-year-old Chinese woman whilst she was walking in Shantung Street, near Canton Road, yesterday morning.

CHILDREN INJURED IN ACCIDENTS

Two Chinese children, a boy and a girl, both aged eight, were injured in separate traffic accidents yesterday.

The lad, Chau War-yuen, living at No. 3, Un Chau Street, ground floor, was struck by a lorry in Wing Lung Street, near Un Chau Street, at about 4.35 p.m. He was admitted to Kowloon Hospital in a serious condition.

The girl, Liu Kwai-luen, residing at No. 9, Hing Wah Street, second floor, was knocked down and seriously injured by a private car in Un Chau Street, near her home, at about 7.30 a.m. The child is receiving treatment at Kowloon Hospital. The Police are looking for the driver who failed to stop after the accident.

New Star At Restaurant

With the opening of "The Golden Phoenix" Restaurant in Manson House, Kowloon, a new star has been added to the galaxy of first-class restaurants and night spots which abound in the Colony.

This restaurant, which represents an entirely new venture on the part of The Dairy Farm, will be run by Mr. Lai Chee-san who is already well-known to practically every party-giver in the Colony.

Mr. Lai, who has had 32 years of experience in the restaurant business, went to Europe last year to study the latest developments in haute cuisine so as to ensure that "The Golden Phoenix" will be up to the standard of the finest restaurants in London or Paris.

FORTUNATE

The Golden Phoenix has been fortunate enough to be able to present to the Colony's diners and dancers an entirely fresh combination made up of the best musicians in the Colony.

Under the inspired leadership of Freddie Abraham at the piano, there will be Connie Gregorio on tenor sax and vibes, Frankie Fong on guitar, George Pearson on the double bass, and the hottest drummer of them all, Ric Flores, who have been practising secretly together to give you the best music in the Orient.

"Freddie Abraham and the All-Star Rhythm Rockets" will be the one band that no dancer between 5 and 95 will wish to miss.

Chemical Fumes Kill Boy Scientist

Vancouver, Jan. 7. The father of a boy who died today after inhaling fumes from a home-made rocket, said he would seek to have the deadly chemical barred from drug store shelves.

David Horstall, 17, described by his teachers as a brilliant chemistry student, was overcome yesterday by fumes from a tiny bottle of nitrobenzene. He was using the chemical while trying to perfect a new rocket fuel.

His father, Corporal H. T. Horstall, RCAF, said his son had been building rockets since he was 12 years old.—United Press.

SIDE GLANCES By Galbraith



"Could I eat my lunch while working this problem. Miss Blair? That always helps me with my homework!"

Cheque Said To Have Been Dishonoured

Hearing was resumed before Judge K. R. Macfee in the Victoria District Court this morning of a claim brought by Tong Wah, of Wah Hing Ho of 94A Island Road, second floor, for \$4,392.41 being a debt in shrimp transactions settled in the form of a cheque on the Wing On Bank Ltd, which was alleged to have been dishonoured.

The defendants (the Asia Raw Materials Co. of 26C Connaught Road, Central, first floor, and Mar Kwong, a partner) were represented by Mr. D. L. Holland-Roberts, of Hastings and Co. The Wah Hing Ho was represented by Mr. G. E. S. Stevenson, of Stewart and Co.

A counter-claim was lodged by the second defendant for \$3,320.04, alleging that plaintiff had received overpayments, failed to deliver 725 lbs of shrimps and failed to return 320 aluminium holders lent to him.

Verbal Contract

Mr. Ken Lam, an employee of the plaintiff firm, testified as a subpoena witness. He said that he first knew the second defendant in September last year. He also knew of a verbal contract between plaintiff and defendants whereby second defendant agreed to purchase shrimps from plaintiff on certain terms.

It was agreed, witness stated, that plaintiff was entitled to \$5 from every \$100 worth of shrimps purchased from defendants on defendants' behalf. Witness added that his employer based his commission on the purchase price and not on the weight of the shrimps supplied. Hearing is proceeding.

Lecture On Sweden

Mr. Michael Meyer, the well-known British author, will lecture for the British Council on "An Englishman looks at Sweden" in the Reading Room in Gloucester Building this afternoon at 5.30.

Mr. Meyer, who has lived in Sweden for many years, is on a short visit to the Colony and his talk, although concerned with Sweden in general and not its arts alone, is presented in connection with the exhibition of Swedish art now displayed at the British Council.

Mr. Torsten Brandel, Consul-General for Sweden, will take the chair.

Arms Found

An unserviceable .38 revolver and 17 rounds of ammunition were found in a heap of rubbish at No. 15, Yue Yuen Street, third floor, yesterday morning.

The revolver and ammunition are believed to have been there for a considerable period. They were removed by the Police.

From the Files

25 years AGO

THE long expected clash at Shanghai has now occurred and it is alleged that Japan is carrying out her plan to occupy Peking and set up a puppet government there, while at the same time isolating Jehol and cutting off supplies from the Manchurian volunteers.

Shanghai: Many people were hurt in a serious riot between French and Italian soldiers and sailors during a New Year affray. The fight started in front of a cafe between two French soldiers and two Italian sailors and spread to the French Consulate where the fighting stopped when guns were produced.

CONSIDERABLE consternation was created among the diners at the Tsuchenko Cafe, Avenue Joffre, Shanghai, when the police closed the doors on the order of the court, at the instance of the China Finance Corporation who demanded payment of interest overdue on a mortgage. A check, recently there was trouble in the same place as the result of an effort of members of the firm of Reuter, Brockmann and Co., attempting to remove plate glass. Much glass was broken and other damage done when the staff resisted.

During the present year a number of small cars, round the 10 hp mark, have made their appearance in Hongkong and the latest arrival is the Morris Ten. It has a cruising speed of 35 to 40 miles an hour and does 36½ miles to the gallon.

Paris: The French luxury liner, the 42,512-ton *Atlantique* is on fire in the English Channel and it is reported that the ship has been abandoned at sea. There are no passengers on board as the liner was on her way from Pauillac, Gironde, to Havre for a refit. She has a crew of about 200.

HOLLYWOOD: Miss Mary Pickford (Mrs Douglas Fairbanks) was painfully injured when a studio lamp fell from an elevated position and struck her on the forehead and shoulder. Miss Pickford fell to the floor of the studio unconscious. The accident occurred while Miss Pickford was making a new picture. Physicians say that her injury was not serious.

During January, the Shin Di Ping Shi (New Chinese), a recently purchased by Mr John Bloomfield of New York, will set sail on a trip around the world. Built in Ningbo, the junk is a year old and has seen five months of actual service. Hongkong will be the first port of call.

VARIED methods were shown in cases of persons attempting to take their own lives on Wednesday. When a middle-aged Chinese was found repeatedly banging his head against a wall in Queen's Road near Wellington Barracks it was thought his case was one for the mental specialist. Another attempted suicide by jumping into the harbour but was rescued, while a third took some poisonous chemical substance and was found in a very grave condition.

Bird's Eye: Those late ferries this morning had less of St George and more of the dragon.

A 14-year-old lad was sentenced to 12 strokes of the birch by Mr Butters at the Kowloon Magistracy yesterday for snatching a mango from the wrist of an 11-month-old baby. He said he was driven to the act by hunger. It was stated by Acting Sub-Inspector Tuckey that the defendant had no relatives in Hongkong, whereupon his Wardship ordered him to be handed over to the SCA after being birched.

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